THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 1ST MARCH

WE ALLUDED last week to Mr. Bright's great speech on the Disestablishment of the Church in England. What he said with regard to his own country applies with ten-fold force to this country. He observed: "The State Church, as we have it now, is not, and cannot be in harmony with the age. If I am able to form any just judgment upon it, I should say that it will be a great day for freedom in this country, and for Protestantism and Christianity, which shall witness the full enfranchisement of the Church within the realms of England." "The greatest question of our time, far more important than the question of free trade, and far more difficult than the question of the extension of the suffrage." If the State Church is an anomaly in England, how much more so is the Church establishment in India, which is mainly supported by revenues paid by Hindus and Mahomedans?

ARMED PEACE seems to be much more threatening than actual collision of arms. It is said that the German Landsturm Bill lately passed will raise the disposable force of the Empire to 2,800,000 men, and almost convert the country into one vast military machine. France now commands about a million and three quarters of men, Russia more than three millions and a third, while Austria, Italy, and other powers are doing the best they can not to be left behind in the race.

THE PEOPLE of Mauritius seem to be disconsolate owing to the taciturnity of their new Governor, Sir Arthur Phayre. The *Sentinelle* asks:

"What are the opinions he professes about matters in the Colony, what line of conduct he will pursue, and what benefit will result to the community from his administration. No one can predict this, for he has not as yet given any indication as to the course he will pursue, nor any idea of the policy he will follow."

But a Governor like other mortals ought to learn first before he should act. Why are the good people of Mauritius so impatient?

HIS EXCELLENCY the Viceroy has addressed the following letter to the Lord Mayor of London conveying the thanks of the British Indian Association to his Lordship and the Mansion House Committee for their generous exertions to assist the sufferers from the late Bengal Famine:

"Government House, Calcutta, Jan. 1, 1875.

My Lord,—I have been requested by the British Indian Association to convey to your lordship and to the gentlemen who contributed to the Bengal Famine Relief Committee their grateful thanks for the successful exertions of the committee on behalf of the distressed population of Bengal.

I have very great pleasure in complying with the request of the Association. The Secretary of State for India has already expressed to your lordship, on behalf of the Government of India, our appreciation of the value of the committee's labours; I will, therefore, only add that in my answer to the Association I remarked that I was very glad to have their authority in confirmation of the opinion which I expressed last March, that the moral and political advantage which is derived from the substantial expression of sympathy in England with distress in India is very great, and that the exertions of the committee called together by the Lord Mayor would be widely appreciated by Her Majesty's subjects in India.

May I ask your lordship to communicate this letter to the late Lord Mayor, under whose auspices the committee was formed?

I have the honour to be, my lord, your lordship's most obedient servant. NORTHBROOK.

To the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor."

THE TOTAL estimate of the production of gold during the past three years, arrived at by the London *Economist*, is, we see, £56,140,000, or an annual average of £18,713,000. This is much below the average of the previous twenty years. From 1852 to 1856, the average was £20,176,000; during the next five years it was £22,933,000; while from 1867 to 1871, it was £20,211,000.

AMONG the more noteworthy points discussed in the Annual Administration Report of Kattywar for the year 1873-74, says the *Times of India*, are the boundary question and the improved police organisation introduced under British auspices some three years since. The new Police organization we hear is a subject of much heart-burning among the Kattywar princes. They consider it an encroachment by the British Government upon their rights of internal administration.

TUESDAY, 2ND MARCH.

THE ACADEMY notes that the Russian expedition which is about to explore Western China has reached Shanghai, *via* Kiachta and Pekin, after procuring the necessary passports at the latter place. The party consists of two military officers, a doctor, a photographer, three Cossacks, and two interpreters. They were to leave at once by steamer for Hankow, whence they will proceed in native boats up the river Han in a westerly direction.

THE CABUL Correspondent of *Indian Public Opinion* reports that the Amir of Cabul has proclaimed before a full Durbar that Ayub Khan, brother to Yakub Khan, has fled toward Persia with a few friends and attendants, and that his men have taken Herat. The Amir appears to be astonished how he got Herat so quietly, and tells the Darbarees that Ayub Khan's friends and others deceived him, who were looking out for an opportunity to fall on his person and make him over to the Amir's forces.

THE SAME CORRESPONDENT says that Yakub Khan has given up all hopes of liberty, and the Amir has been heard to say that he will be imprisoned all the days of his life.

THE DERA ISMAIL KHAN correspondent of the same contemporary learns through the medium of a letter received by some merchants that Ayub Khan's forces have surrounded Candahar and cut off all communications. General Saadut Khan will soon leave Girishk to reinforce Ayub Khan's forces, and a battle on a large scale was expected after the Mohurrum.

WE TAKE the following from a Paris letter:

"On the question of fashions, M. Catteloup informs us, that the ladies of Gaboon employ ten hours to dress their hair, but this process only takes place once a week; *coiffure* consists of a large tress which is coiled upon the centre of the head; parallel with this, to ringlets cover the lower parts of the ear, and each of them is separated from the tress, by shaved space. When parents die, the head is completely shaved, just as the Hebrews practised to cool their grief; in half mourning, the vertical tress is a lowered a storey or two. Jewellery is worn on the instep and as high nearly as the knee. M. Bosquet relates in his late trip among the Ainors, in northern Japan, that the fair sex, who claims to be distant cousins of European ladies, walk in bare feet are dressed like the men, in a single robe made from the bark of trees, and imitate the men by painting themselves a Victor Emmanuel moustache with ochre. Their ear-rings consist of a bit of red rag."

That's the land of pure delight for fathers and husbands who contemplate suicide on the presentation of the little bills from dress-makers and milliners.

IT IS stated that M. Ferdinand de Lesseps has communicated a paper to the Academy of Sciences, Paris, in which he states, that while rain used hardly ever to fall on the Isthmus of Suez twenty years ago, the houses there have now to be roofed over with tiles imported from France—so materially has the Canal affected the climate of the country through which it passes.

THE ROMAN law courts are likely to be called upon to decide upon a somewhat peculiar case. Pope Leo XII., finding himself hard pressed for money, induced several families to make him advances, and by way of compensation freed them and their estates from liability to taxation during the present century. The tax-gatherers of the new Italian kingdom, however, refuse to acknowledge the dispensation, and have demanded payment of four years' taxes from the representatives of the families in question. The latter have, therefore, determined to contest their liability before the legal tribunals.

WEDNESDAY, 3RD MARCH.

MR. ROBERTSON, the Superintendent of the Model Farm in Madras, has lately turned his attention to the improvement of the breeds of cattle and sheep in that presidency. He is of opinion that ground-nut cake is the cheapest and best food available for cattle, and that it is cheaper than any other. To bear out his statement that for cattle fattening, ground-nut cake is the best, he gives figures to show that two small bullocks allowed 6lbs of cake and about 50lbs. of fodder each day, gradually increased in weight from 695lbs. to 800lbs. in 16 weeks. In some cases, the wool obtained from the sheep bred in the farm was sent to England, and favourably reported upon.

THE RANGOON GAZETTE contains the following account of a spiritual conference:

"There was a gathering of spiritualists at a private residence a few evenings ago, at which the spirits from the other world were summoned in large numbers. After some conversation with a long array of dead aunts, uncles, grandfathers, and others, a Local Optionist called up the spirit of a certain Captain who was drowned in Vallejo waters by falling off a small raft while in an intoxicated condition about a year ago. The L. O. tried to make a point by asking him if he had not become satisfied of the evils of intemperance by the manner of his death.—Answer—"No it wasn't whiskey that killed me, it was too much water. I haven't drawn a sober breath since I left your world." "Where are you now?"—"Oh. I'm down here." "What place is down here?"—"I don't know what the name of p'ace is." [The interrogated was, of course, ashamed to tell.] "What do you do where you are? What kind of life do you lead?"—"We don't do much of anything; we just float around in nothingness like so many balloons." "Is there any brimstone where you are?"—"Oh, yes, ther's lots of brimstone, but I tell you the boys are mighty careful how they rub up against it; it goes off like a match when they do, and makes it mighty hot." The departed mariner here refused to hold any further conversation, and the gathering broke up.

A MORNING contemporary says that whilst the English Government in India is discussing the question of the abolition of the import duties on Manchester goods in consequence of the competition of the mills in this country, the French Government at Pondicherry does all it can to encourage the local manufacture in that town. There are some mills there working 135 looms, to assist which the French Government has just granted a subsidy of Rs 40,000 per annum, although the mills are the property of a joint-stock company.

ACCORDING to the Paris *Figaro*, there are yet in France and its colonies 25,000 men who have fought under Napoleon I., their ages being from 80 to 90.

THE IRRIGATION CESS, it is stated, has been abolished in Mysore.

MR. HOGG seems to be really in earnest for the improvement of the *bustees*. On Monday morning he took His Honor the Lieutenant Governor round to some of the *bustees* in the Native Town. We only hope that his zeal will be tempered with discretion.

THE CASE of the alleged illegal imprisonment of Rajah Raghbir Singh, of the Landhoura Estates, in the district of Saharunpore, has been at last decided by the High Court, N. W. P. We take the following particulars from the *Englishman*:

"Raghbir Sing, the petitioner before the High Court, alleges himself to be the Rajah of Landhoura, who, after he had completed his education at the Benares College, took possession of considerable landed estates in the district of Saharunpore, and disappeared, under suspicious circumstances, within a short period of his becoming master of his property. The rumours current at the time of his disappearence, about April 1868, pointed to a near kinsman as the perpetrator of an attempt to poison the young Rajah, and as the instigator of an attempt to dispose of his body by throwing him into the Ganges while life remained. Towards the end of June 1874, the petitioners, Raghbir Singh, was seized by the Police in the neighbourhood of Landhoura, and sent into the Magistrate of Roorkee as a person of mendicant appearance who represented himself to have been rescued from the river, and to be the person entitled to possession of the estates. The Police left the Magistrate to dispose of the mendicant as a person without ostensible means of subsistence. The appearance of such a claimant soon brought the Magistrate of Saharunpore, Mr Jenkinson, on the field, and the petitioner before the High Court alleged that this gentleman, after a lengthy cross-examination of him in the Roorkee Dak Bungalow, had him put into a constable's uniform, and despatched under charge of a Police Officer to the Saharunpore Jail; that he was kept in solitary confinement there in the cell used for criminals condemned to capital punishment from 1st July to 14th August, during which time he was beaten with a stick, and coerced into making statements taken down as depositions, and then was stealthily released after strenuous representations had been made by an English barrister, only to be deported to the Punjab by the Magistrate on the very night of his release, without the knowledge of his friends, under cover of night, and after he had been made to drink intoxicating liquor; that on his return to the house of another kinsman living at Deobund, in the neighbourhood of Saharunpore, on the 23rd September, the petitioner was again arrested and put in prison, and at the time of the first petition to the High Court on the 2nd November 1874, was still kept in durance vile, the Officiating Magistrate, Mr. Tidy, refusing to accept any sureties for the petitioner's good behaviour, although numerous respectable persons had offered themselves as such, some tendering the required amount, viz., 1,000 rupees in currency notes, others offering a hypothecation of landed property for the same sum to fulfil the requirements of law. The record of the case, although sent for by the High Court on the 2nd November 1874, was not received there till the middle of December, owing to various departmental delays. Meanwhile, the petitioner had been again released on the security bond of a surety, who had offered himself on the 2nd October, but whose security was not approved by Mr. Tidy, the Officiating Magistrate, until a Major Gordon, of the Retired List, appeared on the scene, and, in order to get the petitioner released, prevailed on the said surety to insert a condition in his security bond, to the effect that he would remove the petitioner to the Punjab, and not allow him to return to any of the three districts of Saharunpore, Mozuffernuggur, or Meerut during the term of the bond. Mr. Tidy apparently not satisfied with such a stipulation ordered the Inspector of Police to hand the petitioner over to Major Gordon and the surety, and to accompany them to the Railway Station on the very night of the release, with the object of seeing them depart for the Punjab, thus like Mr. Jenkinson, deporting the petitioner

a second time, but, unlike him, doing the matter openly and boldly, under official directions."

The case was heard before Mr. Justice Turner, who thus concludes his judgmeut :

"As I can find no warrant for it in the Code, I must hold that the Magistrate had no power to impose the condition on the petitioner or his surety. Inasmuch as the condition does not appear in the order for release, it will be sufficient to declare that so much of the proceedings of the Magistrate as purport to impose the condition are null and void. One or two observations remain to be made. The Officiating Magistrate does not support his order requiring security on the ground that the petitioner meditated the institution of a claim which he considered false, and therefore the commission of an offence. On the contrary, the Officiating Magistrate states that he constantly pointed out to the petitioner's friends that their proper course was to institute proceedings in the Civil Courts. I have not therefore though it necessary to express any opinion whether any powers are conferred on a Magistrate by which he may prevent a person from instituting civil proceedings on a claim which the Magistrate believes to be unfounded. In conclusion, I cannot refrain from stigmatising the delays in dealing with the applications made by the persons who, from time to time, tendered themselves as sureties in this case as a vexatious and uncalled for. It is if not necessary, at least, desirable, that such persons should attend to defend their characters if impugned, and to prove their solvency, and such inquiries should be disposed of without delay, and in open court."

The Criminal Procedure Code is thus working with a vengeance.

THURSDAY, 4TH MARCH.

WE HAVE received the first number of the *Behar Herald*. It is neatly got up and fairly written. We wish our contemporary every success.

WE LEARN from the same journal that a boarding institution has been opened in connection with the Patna College. There are at present only nine boarders—all Beharis (Hindus.)

THE SAME PAPER says that "Sir George Campbell's scheme of Native Civil Service can now be farly said to have collapsed. Against 300 candidates, who appeared at the examination at Patna last year, only 25 candidates competed at the examination, which was held at the Patna College last week."

WE ARE glad to observe in the above journal that the newly established Zemindars' Association of Behar have taken our hint and extended the basis of its operations. Its objects are now declared to be :

"(1). To take measures to redress all such matters as tend or are likely to tend to injure the ryots and cultivators.

(2). To investigate all the causes that are likely to injure the rights of Zemindars.

(3). To frame from time to time such rules as might promote amicable relations between Zemindars and ryots, and might be benificial to both, provided they are not opposed to any of the Laws and rules of Government.

(4). Whenever necessary to solicit Government aid from time to time in the attainment of the above objects.

(5). To represent to Government the injuries suffered, or are likely to be suffered by Zemindars, Talukdars, undertenants or ryots from any of the Laws or Rules, which are now in force or may hereafter be enforced by Government."

Conducted with moderation and judgment the Association will both deserve and command success.

RUSSIA seems bent on having a railway to India. The Berlin correspondent of *The Times* informs that journal that a special Committee, including the Ministers of war, Finance, and Public Communications, as also Generals Von Kaufman, Von Heins, and Tchefkine, has been recently appointed at St. Petersburg for the purpose of examining the remodelled propositions of M. de Lesseps with reference to the construction of a Central Asian Railway.

WE LEARN from the *Friend of India* that the Lieutenant Governor has directed an officer well acquainted with Bengal to enquire into the details given by Babu Romesh Chunder Dutt in his book on the Peasantry of Bengal and to report thereon to Government. This is as it should be.

IT IS said that a large portion of the Commissariat stores, consisting of malt liquor, lately arrived from England, being the supply for 1875, has been condemned by the Committee in India. Who is to hang?

A PROPOSITION has been made by the Commissioner of Cuttack to establish a Medical School in Orissa, with a view to training up a number of young Oryahs in medicine and surgery for local service, as has been done in other parts of Bengal.

THE Nepal boundary question is reported to have been decided in favour of the Native State.

BOMBAY is behind Calcutta in the matter of water supply. It is proposed to carry out a new scheme on an estimated cost of Rs. 40,31,120, to meet which the Town Council propose to borrow from Government 40,00,000, on 4 per cent interest, and a 2 per cent. sinking-fund. The interest and sinking-fund would require an annual payment of Rs. 2,40,000. Add to this sum the annual working expenses and it will be necessary we fear to impose a 4 per cent water rate.

PAPER manufactured from the refuse of the sugar-cane is reported from Guadaloupe. The paper is said to be of excellent quality, thick fine grained ,and with particularly smooth surface.

FRIDAY, 5TH MARCH.

IT IS stated that a Musical Society has been established in Guzerat for the purpose of diffusing a taste for the better sort of Indian music.

AMONG the gentlemen lately called to the Bar in England are the following:—Prince Mahomed Wahiduddin, Babu Promothonath Mitter, Mr. Andrew Lyon of the Bombay Civil Service, and Mr. C. H. W. Woodroffe, B. A. Prince Wahiduddin, it is stated, is a son of Prince Busheruddin of the Mysore family.

ANOTHER tale of the death of a poor native "by a slight blow" by a son of Mars called Lieutenant Crompton comes from Peshwar. The *Pioneer* is assured by a correspondent that "Lieutenant Crompton has the sincere sympathys of every one, as it was well known that he was not in the habit of ill-using his servants." Our contemporary remarks that "accidents of this kind have taken place in India before now, and it seems strange that the warning they convey has not been generally appreciated." Should not some strong action be taken by Government to prevent "accidents of this kind?"

THE EMPEROR and Empress of Japan, acting on the axiom that example is better than precept, have had themselves vaccinated with a view to remove the prejudices of their subjects on this matter.

PURSUANT to announcement the Annual Conversazione of the Mahomedan Literary Society was held at the Town Hall on last Tuesday night. Among those present were the under-mentioned distinguished visitors : His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, His Excellency the Commander-in-chief, Sir William Muir, His Highness the Maharaja Holkar G. C. S. I., His Highness the Maharaja of Vizianagram K. C. S. I., Sir T. Madhava Row K. C. S. I., Maharaja Sir Jyemungul Singh Bahadoor of Gidhour K. C. S. I. Maharaja Koomar Hurrendro Kishore Singh Bahadoor of Bettiah, the Envoy from the King of Burma and others. There were made various scientific exhibitions and experiments. Father Lafont exhibited "Static Electricity." Rai Kany Lall Dey Bahadoor made interesting experiments in the "Chemistry of Coal." We subjoin his programme :

CHEMISTRY OF COAL.

Chief varieties of Coal Products obtained by Destructive Distillation.
COAL.
COKE.
COAL GAS.
AMMONIACAL LIQUOR.—Ammonium Sulphate.
Ammonium Chlorida.
Ammonium Carbonate (Semelling Salt.)
COAL-TAR.—Naptha.
Kerosine or Photogen.
Benzole.
Kreosote Oil.
Carbolic Acid.
Paraffine.
Naphthalene.
ANILINE COLOR—(A Similar Substance is obtained from Indigo.
Magenta.
Rosiene.
Yellow.
Phosphine.
Gas light Green.
Blue.
Brown.
Violet.
ANTHRACENE.—(A Similar Substance is obtained from madder.
PITCH.—(Retumen, Asphalt.)

THE NEW SALT ACT of Bombay, against which the people of that Presidency had so vehemently protested, but which the Viceroy did not unfortunately veto, threatens to extinguish local salt industry. The *Indu Prokash* understands that almost all the salt-works in the Tanna District have ceased to manufacture salt, and the price of salt has consequently increased about 50 per cent. during the last two weeks. This is the result of the working of the Bombay Salt Act of 1873.

WE ARE SORRY to learn that the unfortunate accident which Sir Jung Bahadur met with in Bombay the other day has prevented him from carrying out his intention of visiting England this year. He may visit it next year.

TWO NATIVE GENTLEMEN of Bombay, Mr. Ranade and Mr. Parmanand are on a visit to Calcutta. The first is a Barrister-at-law, who was not condemned to eat the customary dinners in an Inn of Court, but was enrolled under Sir Richard Couch's rules, and is now a Subordinate Judge of Poona, and the second holds a high appointment in the Bombay Secretariat. Mr. Ranade was for several years the English writer of the *Indu Prokash*, and Mr. Parmanand conducted *Native Opinion* for about three years.

IT IS NOT true that the Hon'ble Raja Romanath Tagore C. S. I. has resigned his seat in the Viceregal Legislative Council from ill-health. He has gone out by rotation. His Excellency the Viceroy has addressed a most handsome letter acknowledging his services in the Council. The Raja, who was suffering from nervous debility in consequence of the intense cold we had lately, has greatly recovered his strength since the approach of the hot weather.

SATURDAY, 6TH MARCH.

THE SOLICITOR'S JOURNAL, London, makes the following remarks on the question of the fee, given to Serjeant Ballantine for the Gaekwar's defence :

"It appears that the utmost amount realized by Lord Kenyon in one year when he was Attorney-General) was £14,308 11s. of which more than 3.000 guineas were made by opinions. The fee-book of Lord Eldon, when Attorney-General, is given by Lord Campbell in his 'Lives of the Chancellors,' and the highest total for one year is put down as £12,140 15s 8d. Erskine appears to have received £1,000 for the defence of Admiral Keppel, but that after the acquittal. In our own time two fortunate Attorney-Generals, and a late leader of the Parliamentary Bar are stated to have respectively received £30,000 in one year. But as far as we remember, although refreshers have often been very liberal in proportion to the retainer no retainer since the fee of 4,000 guineas marked on the brief of Serjeant Wilde, in 'Small v Attwood,' has at all approached in amount that given to Serjeant Ballantine."

MR. ROSS MANGLES officiates for Mr. Rivers Thompson as Judicial Secretary to the Government of Bengal. He has just returned from England and was *Gazetted* Judicial Commissioner of Mysore, but he prefers to remain in Calcutta. He was for sometime Secretary to the Bengal Board of Revenue. Mr. Rivers Thompson's withdrawal will be a great loss to the Bengal Government.

IN THE PROCLAMATION announcing the death of the Emperor of China it is notified that "all the military and the people of the 18 provinces will wear mourning for 27 days ; for one month they will not marry, and for 100 days they will not have music. The officials, military and people, will not shave their heads for 100 days. The Governors-General and Governors, and such officials, will refrain from burning incense before the Gods (acts of public worship.)"

THE INDIAN DAILY NEWS considers that "in a fit of frantic impartiality, Sir Richard proposes to give grants for native schools, while granting assistance to the schools intended for Christians." Our contemporary ought to remember that no aid is at present given to native schools in Calcutta. It is a few Missionary and Christian institutions, which exclusively enjoy the previlege. Sir Richard Temple's proposal aims at the removal of a long standing injustice to native schools in Calcutta.

THE ZEMINDARS of Monghyr waited on His Excellency the Viceroy with an address of thanks for the successful famine policy of Government. His Excellency in his reply took opportunity to correct some of the errors still persisted in by some of our Anglo-Indian contemporaries in reference to the action of Government. These journalists quote Sir John Strachey against the Government, and His Excellency answers them in Sir John's own words. Referring to the distress in Tirhoot His Excellency says : "The reasons are well known to those who are acquainted with the country. One of those reasons was very well expressed by Sir Jhon Strachey, the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces. In Monghyr, as in some parts of the North-Western Provinces, there was "a general good outturn of the *rubbee* havest in a country, only a small portion of which is dependent on a single crop," while in North Tirhoot the extent of country over which the rice crop failed was very much greater. There was very little *rubbee* to fall back upon, and what little there was, was not a good crop. In fact, North Tirhoot depended mainly upon one crop, and the distress fell (as Sir John Strachey expressed it) upon "the majority of a great agricultural population," instead of being limited to a part. If the price of rice had been much higher in the worst districts than it actually was, there would have been a famine in the country, and large numbers of people must have died, as they did at the time of the famine in Orissa. The Government did not send into the country more rice than they thought would be required for the safety of the people. They only sold rice when there were no traders who could be found to sell it, and when the traders came back, the Government ceased to sell. If the Government had sold more rice than was necessary, the price would have become very much cheaper, whereas everybody knows that rice for a long time was so dear, that it was difficult for a poor man to buy enough for himself and his family. Besides this, almost all of the rice sold was Burmah rice, which the people would not buy, if they could get the rice of their own country to which they are accustomed." These are broad facts, which ought to silence the malcontents.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Viceroy and Governor General in Council is pleased to confer the title of "Raja Bahadoor," as a personal distinction, upon Raj Coomar Seoraj Nundun Singh, of Seohur.

RAJA CHUNDERNATH ROY BAHADUR having resigned his appointment of *Attaché* in the Foreign Department Kazi Syud Ahmed is appointed in his stead.

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THE FOLLOWING is a statement of cash balances in the treasuries of the Government of India at the end of January last :

	1873.	1874.	1875.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Govt. of India ...	2,02,05,834	3,10,22,831,	2,44,66,864
Bengal ...	2,63,97,091	1,99,04,940	2,38,61,922
Assam ...			26,18,846
British Burmah ...	20,28,920	23,38,260	30,74,204
N.-W. Provinces ...	2,83,71,281	2,49,13,572	2,30,15,253
Oudh ...	81,05,022	58,17,896	64,68,786
Punjab ...	1,24,96,717	1,20,15,630	1,43,76,284
Bombay ...	4,58,18,637	2,77,49,766	2,29,60,886
Central Provinces ...	95,33,679	74,89,818	50,20,585
Madras ...	2,98,89,452	2,46,77,160	2,30,41,214
Total ...	18,31,46,633	15,59,29,873	14,89,04,047

NOT LONG ago we complained of the present system of abridging new consolidation Bills by referring the public to existing Acts for substantive law. This was notably the case with the Presidency Magistrates' Bill. This only saves labor and trouble to the Legislative Secretary, but is productive of great inconvenience to the public. We are glad to observe that the Bill in question has been postponed with a view to set out all the sections of the Criminal Procedure Code *in extenso* referred to in the Bill.

IT IS STATED that the next Budget statement will be published in the *Gazette* without being in the first instance laid before the Legislative Council as there is no measure of taxation to be passed. Although the Legislative Council is not a House of Commons, still the practice of submitting the Budget to it had one salutary effect. It provoked discussion and elicited answers from the Finance Minister, which the public have no other means of obtaining.

A CORRESPONDENT says that the B. A. course for 1876 is out of print, and that the Calcutta University is taking no steps to reprint it. The candidates are therefore put to great inconvenience.

THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS proposes to introduce the system of Honorary Magistracy in that Presidency. It has passed the following Resolution on the subject: "In view to giving relief to the salaried magistracy in municipal towns and to securing benefit to the public in the more expeditious disposal of certain petty cases, as well as a mark of distinction to numerous public-spirited individuals among the upper classes, His Excellency in Council desires that Magistrates of Districts will furnish the names of four or five of the leading residents in every municipality, who will, generally, he supposes, be members of the Municpal Commission, as qualified and willing to be gazetted to be Honorary Magistrates; it being the intention of His Excellency in Council to form a Bench of Magistrates in each Municipality—the *quorum* to consist of two Honorary Magistrates with a salaried magistrate as president—and to invest every such Bench of magistrates with the powers of a magistrate of the third class to try summarily offences coming within certain sections of the Indian Penal Code, offences against the Municipal Act, and offences against the conservancy clauses of the Police Act."

NOWHERE DID Mr. Grant Duff receive a heartier welcome than at Tanjore. We learn from the *Madras Mail* that from the house of the Collector, whose guest he was, to the railway station, the road was adorned with festoons. In front of the station there was erected a temporary porch, adorned with bright cloths, flowers, and heraldic devices. The arrival platform had a rich awning spread over it, and the ground was carpeted. At the eastern end of the plattorm a guard of sepoys, and the public band were drawn up. Long before the arrival of the mail train, the place was densely crowded. On the platform were most of the Europeans of the station, and the native gentry, some of the latter being gorgeously attired. The police mustered strong, and kept order.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week :

"*London 3rd March.*—In the house of Commons Mr. Gregory announced his intention after the Easter to call attention of the House to the report of the Commissioners on the affairs of the Bank of Bombay. Sir Andrew Clarke have been gazetted for public works purposes. Turkey manifests irritation at the intervention of Russia, Germany, and Austria in the questions concerning the vassal States.

London, 4th March.—A letter has been published by Mr. Bright in which he stigmatizes home rule as impossible and absurd.

Paris 25th February.—The National Assembly have adopted by 436 against 262 votes the bill organising the public powers. This implies the recognition of the republic. Marshal Macmahon nominates the councillors of the State, and M. Buffet is forming a Cabinet. A note in an official journal declares that Marshal Macmahon is resolved to uphold the conservative principles.

Paris 1st March.—The Assembly have re-elected M Buffett as Persident with a large majority, thus demonstrating confidence in the future Ministry, the formation of which has been delayed through the death of M. Buffet's mother."

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following publications and periodicals :—1. Antiquities of Orissa, Vol. I. By Babu Rajendralala Mitra. Published by Messrs. Wyman & Co. 2. Annual Administration Report of the Munnipoor Agency for 1873-74. 3. Records of the Geological Survey of India, Vol. VIII. Part I. 1875. 4. On the Expediency of the Introduction of Tests for Physical Training into the present system of competitive examination for the Army, Navy, and Indian Civil Service. By H. Woodrow, M.A. 5. Nirunjana Kavya By Krishna Lal Doss 6. *Subdakrulpa Druma* Vol. 3, No. 2. 7. *Calcutta Magazine* for January 1875. 8. Datta's Series Family Guide, Cholera.

FROM THE death-return of Calcutta for the 20th February we learn that the total number of deaths during that week was 248, of which 24 were from small-pox, and 16 from cholera.

WE HEAR that the Premchund Roychand Studentship of the Calcutta University will not be awarded this year, none of the candidates having come up to the mark. It will be thrown open to competition next year.

AT THIS day's sitting of the Bengal Council the Boiler Bill and the Jute Ware-houses Bill were passed into law. Mr. Dampier introduced the Boundary Marks Bill.

THE CRIMINAL charge against the *Indian Statesman* filed by Messrs. Finlay Muir & Co. was again gone into at the Police Court on Tuesday and Friday last. The Magistrate has taken time to deliver judgment.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MARCH 8, 1875.

THE NATIVE FEELING ON THE BARODA QUESTION.

IT cannot be denied that the native community are full of the Baroda question. In Bombay the whole native population feels keenly about it—in the other provinces it is the educated natives, who chiefly concern themselves on the subject. In Bombay the interest is peculiar, and naturally so. The Gaekwar is a Maharatta prince, and the Maharattas naturally feel interested in his future. The orientals are peculiarly attached to their superiors, whether these be feudal lords or sovereign princes. This phase of their character was markedly illustrated in the Oudh Rebellion of 1857-58. When the hurricane of the Sepoy Mutiny swept over Northern India, many talookdars of Oudh raised the standard of revolt, and their tenantry almost to a man joined it. The talookdars had of course their grievances —they had lost their old position and privileges, and they were discontented. But it was the tenantry, for whose special benefit the British Government had made new rules and regulations, which militated against the interests of the talookdars. They were groaning under exactions and oppressions, which the British Government sought to relieve. Far from feeling grateful they cast in their lots with their oppressors when the hour of trial came. What was it that impelled them to this course ? It was evidently that instinctive feeling of attachment which one feels for his kith and kin, that veneration which an oriental above all others cherishes for a house which his forefathers used to respect and to follow through good report and evil report. But the interest which the Maharattas take in the fortunes of the Gaekwar is not simply personal or traditional. It is true that there is some personal sympathy with the Gaekwar, and Englishmen, who have heard so much of his follies and oppressions may wonder that such should be the case. But they should remember that this sympathy is an instinctive pity for fallen greatness—it does not imply an approval of his personal conduct. Even when his worst enemy falls the oriental feels pity for him. He certainly wishes for the protection of his own interests first; and though that object might not be attained without an utter prostration of his opponent, still when the deed is done, he almost wishes that the thing had not gone so far. This may be a strange inconsistency, but the feeling nevertheless exists. It is a psychological phenomenon, which it may be difficult to account for, but the existence of which cannot be denied. In the Gaekwar's case there is another powerful motive operating in the breasts of the Maharattas of Bombay. It is well known that under the British Government the native has not a fitting career. It is true that of late some openings have been made, but they are so few and far between that they have scarcely any appreciable effect upon aspiring minds. Now the Maharattas find in Baroda an open field for employment, and they are not without dread that if the British take possession of the State they will be shut out of this field. It is true that Lord Northbrook has distinctly pledged that Baroda shall not be annexed, that even if the present Gaekwar be found guilty of the charge laid against him, and consequently set aside, the State shall be restored to a Native Administration. It would be most unjust to say that the Maharattas have no faith in his Lordship's words. We may observe that in the long roll of English noblemen, who have from time to time ruled India, there was not one, whose personal character commanded greater respect, in whose conscientiousness and sense of justice the people had greater confidence, and who carried their attachment in a greater degree than Lord Northbrook, but the present feeling in Bombay does not imply want of faith in his Lordship. The fear is that if the Gaekwar be set aside, and a Native administration be established, it may be based on the model of Mysore, and then it will be to all intents and purposes a "British" administration. Lord Northbrook may not so wish it; His Lordship may give a Native Administration in its integrity; the full and cordial support which His Lordship gave to the Reform Ministry of the Gaekwar afforded abundant evidence of his single-mindedness. But His Lordship will not hold the reins of Government for ever. Some one may come after him, who may be of a different turn of mind, who may be aggressive in his proclivities, and who may convert Baroda into a British State in all but in name. And no one can deny that the past history of British diplomacy in the East does not invalidate this suspicion. It is from the past the people draw surmises for the future. It is this suspicion, so far as we can judge, which is working in the minds of the Maharattas of Bombay on the Baroda question. This, it may be said, is intelligible, but it may be asked what is the cause of the deep interest which the subject has excited among the educated Natives all over India? Their fortunes are not bound up with those of the Gaekwar; their interests are identical with those of the British Government; and is not their sympathy with the ruler of Baroda symptomatic of disloyalty to their own sovereign ? We deny this. We admit that the educated natives of the other presidencies and provinces have no personal or traditional interest in Baroda; to them it is a matter of no practical consequence whether Mulhar Rao rules in Baroda or some one else in his stead. Their duty is primarily to the British Government, and whatever will conduce to its stability will conduce to their happiness. But the interest which the educated natives take in the Baroda question is intellectual and moral. It is the same sort of interest that they took in the fratricidal war in America, in the late Franco-Prussian war, or in the struggle for power in France still going on between the Imperialists and the Republicans. English education has given India what it had never had before—we mean public opinion. The educated natives have acquired a knowledge, which enables them to form independent opinion on public question, and as the electric wire carries intelligence from one part of the country to the other, so the chord which English education touches in the heart-string of the nation vibrates equally through all the parts of the country. And the British Government we submit ought to feel proud of this awakened intelligence in the national mind of India. There cannot be greater stability for British rule in the East than when it rests on the willing and intelligent allegiance of the people. It is true that the educated natives of all India are watching with intense interest the policy of Government towards Baroda. It is not that they have any personal sympathy with the Gaekwar—so far as he is individually concerned they only wish that full justice should be done to him—but they do sympathize with the State of Baroda and desire that its integrity should be maintained inviolate. They do not certainly palliate abuse or oppression when it is committed by a native prince; but they do not share the vulgar European belief that Native princes are monsters in human form. There are

certainly abuses in Native States, but can our English rulers say that there are not abuses under their own administration? There is corruption in those States, but there is also corruption under British rule. Notwithstanding the anxious solicitude of our Government for the improvement of the Police and the subordinate administrative agency it cannot be denied that the way to the temple of justice is still paved with gold. The Police and the Court amla still levy black mail. Similarly corruption prevails in Native States, but many of our native princes are now anxious to promote good government to the best of their ability. In fact they cannot now stand still—they must progress. The contrast between the blessings of British rule and the effects of their own administration is so great that for their own sakes they are constrained to follow in the footsteps of the Paramount Power. Bad as Mulhar Rao is represented to be, he shewed every disposition to reform after the warning given by the British Government. He invited to the head of his country a Parsi gentleman, who received his political training in England, and was therefore above the low intrigues of native courtiers. The new Minister in his turn availed himself of the services of some of the ablest and most upright native gentlemen of Bombay. If he had not been thwarted by Colonel Phayre in his schemes of reform, he would have accomplished much which would have substantially benefitted Baroda, and redounded to his own credit. The Gaekwar himself was not opposed to reform. Sir Lewis Pelly's despatch lately published in the *Gazette of India* testifies to the sincerity of his intentions, and it is urged in defence of the administrative measures which he has adopted as Special Commissioner that they are in unison with the ideas and wishes of His Highness. Thus the Native Princes, even the worst of them, are anxious for the welfare of their subjects, and there can therefore be no just pretext for the British Government to extinguish their independence. Then the Native Princes constitute so many mighty pillars for the support of the fabric of the British Empire in times of danger, and their usefulness was signally demonstrated when its stability was threatened by the Sepoy Mutiny of 1857. When that storm burst over the country, it was these props, which served chiefly to maintain the fabric. And the educated natives are convinced that in the interests of the British Government as well in those of the Native States their integrity should be preserved. It is true that Lord Northbrook has pledged that Baroda shall not be annexed, and they have the fullest confidence in the good faith of His Lordship. They have not the remotest doubt that His Lordship will faithfully carry out his declaration. If they nevertheless criticize His Lordship's policy, it is not right to construe these criticisms into aspersions upon that policy, which is as bright as the noon-day sun and which is just and righteous in its end and aim,—they are simply deductions from history, though in some cases ill-expressed, ill-toned, and ill-balanced, and therefore liable to misconstruction. The past, so far as the treatment of the native princes goes, is not certainly a matter of pride for the English nation. And it is not in human nature to forget the past. But this feeling is not disloyalty, nor does it imply want of confidence in the present Viceroy. No other Governor General since Lord Canning, we submit, has received a more warm, steady and consistent support from the organs of Native opinion than Lord Northbrook, and there are good reasons for it. The land cried for rest, and he has given it rest. The people groaned under the income tax, and he repealed it. They were panting for breath under over-government, and he gave them relief. They starved and he gave them food. Can they be ungrateful to such a just, considerate, and humane ruler? If they do not quite appreciate his Baroda policy, it is because they judge the future by the past. They may consequently now seem to be unreasonable, but they will better understand and we hope will be better understood when the present policy is carried to its *finale*. The end will justify the means, not in that sordid sense which is ordinarily attached to this saying. This we submit is the philosophy of the Native feeling on the Baroda question.

MIGHT IS RIGHT.

IN the collosal magnitude of the Baroda question we hope minor questions will not be lost sight of. We propose to lay before the reader a tale of Might against Right, which cannot fail to fill all right-thinking men with the deepest sorrow. The range of hills lying between Assam on one side, and the Sylhet and Mymensing districts on the other is known as the Garro country. Many outrages were committed from time to time upon British subjects by the savage Garros, and the British Government accordingly resolved to take possession of the Garro country, and bring it under effective control. A considerable portion of this tract however belonged to the zemindar of Shooshung in the district of Mymensing, and he was unceremoniously dispossessed of his ancestral acres. The zemindars of Shooshung have a history anterior to the British Raj. The estate included a large tract of land to the north of the District of Mymensing and south of Gowalpara in Assam as at present defined by the Revenue Survey and included in the Garro Hills. When the Permanent Settlement was concluded in 1793 the tract of land now included in the Garro Hills was permanently settled with the ancestors of the present Raja, who held it until he was summarily ejected by the enactment of Act 22 of 1869, known as the Garro Hills Act. The first intimation he received on the subject was the following:

To THE DIGNIFIED, RENOWNED, AND MOST HIGH, SREEJOOT RAJAH RAJKRISTO SINGH, BHOOP, BAHADOOR.

"MAY GOD GIVE YOU LONG LIFE."—You are hereby informed that under the provisions of the Garrow Law Act XXII of 1869 you shall have no authority to interfere with or realize rents from the Garrows residing on the Garrow Hills situate beyond the limits fixed by the Mymensingh Revenue Survey thakbust authorities that you shall entirely cease from at all interfering with them that you shall lay before me whatever claims you may have and that you shall send to me through the Deputy Commissioner of the Garrow Hills the Jumma Wasil Bakee papers of the Garrows, papers connected with the elephant Mehal and all other descriptions of papers, dated 29th January 1870.

Letter from the Commissioner of Cooch Behar Division. } Julpiguri, (Sd.) J. C. HAUGHTON, *Commissioner of Cooch Behar and Political Agent.*

Then was addressed the following:

To THE DIGNIFIED, RENOWNED, (AND MOST HIGH) SREEJOOT RAJAH, RAJKRISTO SINGH, BAHADOOR.

"MAY GOD KEEP YOU IN PEACE."—I have received whatever papers you have sent to me, but as you have not sent the Jamma Wasil Bakee and other papers the same are considered entirely unnecessary, you have not sent the Jumma Wasil Bakee and other papers to prove whether the annual estimate of income which you have fixed is in fact a correct estimate of such income or not, under such circumstances the said Goswarah papers can by no means be admitted, therefore it is necessary for the determination of that subject to inspect the papers of the elephant, wood, lime, etc. mehals for 20 years.

As you are well aware that papers must have to be submitted, it appears from your acts under the circumstances of the case that you shall sustain loss by the production of these papers, and as a consequence thereof you have not presented such papers within six weeks, and nothing but that you desire to raise difficulties in the way of the business of Government is evident from your acts. It is therefore absolutely necessary to report to Government about your negligence.

Further that you shall cease entirely from interfering with the Hills. If you catch elephants, without taking out a pattah, and the same are arrested they will escheat to Government. Except the Garrow tenants no other parties shall cut timber without my permission. If it becomes necessary to cut timber, a pattah should be taken beforehand from me, you shall entirely cease from interfering with, or sending any of your amlahs to the Garrow tenants living within the northern limits fixed by the thakbust. It is in contemplation that the northern boundary of Shooshung will be fixed by survey measurements, after the same is done the boundaries will be fixed by iron pillars, and you shall be personally held responsible for the removal or destruction of the pillars by the inhabitants of the village or by other persons.

Camp Ghashgao, dated 13th March 1870."

Now the Raja of Shooshung had never admitted the correctness of the Revenue Survey referred to by Colonel Haughton. On the contrary he actively contested it. He instituted a suit in the Civil Courts, and ultimately went up to the Privy Council. We give the following extracts from the judgment of the Privy Council:

"The object of this suit was twofold. It was brought to set aside the boundary line which had been laid down by the survey authorities, and confirmed by all the revenue authorities up to and including the Sudder Board of Revenue; and it further sought a declaration of the right of the Plaintiff, as the zemindar of the permanently settled zemindary of Pergunnah Shooshung, to the whole of the lands lying to the north of that boundary line within the boundaries set forth in the plaint. Now there does not seem to be much dispute or difficulty as to the western, eastern, or north-eastern boundaries, but the difficulty in the case has been to say what is the northern boundary of the permanently settled zemindary of Shooshung, if it is not the line laid down by the survey authorities. The boundary claimed by the plaint is "the hills running along the north of the villages of Abulgarai and Sasangarai upon the north." Their Lordships will presently advert to the difficulty of giving a definite interpretation to that description of the northern boundary. At present it is sufficient to say that the first object sought by the suit has been fully obtained; that the zillah Judge found that the survey authorities had erroneously laid down the boundary line; that although there was some difference of opinion in the division bench to whom that decision of the zillah Judge went in the first instance by appeal, all the judges composing the Full Bench of the High Court concurred in ruling that that line had been improperly laid down; and that it was not binding in any way upon the Plaintiff.

There is no cross-appeal against that decision, and the boundary line in question must therefore be taken to have been conclusively set aside.

The only question then which has been brought here by appeal, and the only question with which their Lordships have to deal, is whether the Plaintiff, the Appellant has made out his title to the declaration sought in his suit of his right as zemindar to all the lands within the boundaries, described in the plaint. Their Lordships have no hesitation in saying that they concur entirely with the High Court in thinking that the Appellant has given very strong evidence of rights of dominion exercised within the forests lying to the north of what may be called the survey line, and of rights, of ownership as zemindar and possession as zemindar of certain villages, more particularly those villages which are referred to in the judgment of Mr. Justice Phear, as mentioned in the rubocarees of Mr. Irwin and Mr. Inglis, and in the final decision of Mr. Jenkins, the Commissioner.

In respect of those villages there was a distinct contest whether they belonged to the zemindary of Shooshung, or whether the Government had a right to assess them as belonging to the territory alleged to be independent and unsettled or whether they belonged to the Cosyah Rajah; and the result of those proceedings was to affirm the title of the Rajah of Shooshung.

Those proceedings then, if not conclusive in this case, at least afford very strong evidence that those villages are part and parcel of the Appellant's settled zemindary. And if their Lordships could have seen their way to any decision which would shut the door to future litigation and define beyond all further question the rights of the Appellant, they would have been extremely glad to pronounce it. But upon full consideration they do not see how upon the pleadings and evidence before them, and consistently with the practice of the courts in like cases, they can make such a decree."

As there were not proper maps before their Lordships of the Privy Council, they could not adjudge the case finally. They remark:

"Upon the whole, then, their Lordships feel that they are incompetent to declare the boundary or to do substantially more than has been done by the High Court. It has, however, been suggested that the decree of the High Court (and this has been fairly admitted by Mr. Cowie) may be open to some misconstruction, and their Lordships would propose to vary it in the way to be now stated. They do not think it necessary to alter that part of it which reverses the decree of the Zillah Court, in so far as it declares the Plaintiff to be entitled to the lands specified in the plaint, because there is really no substantial difference between reversing that part of the decree and directing that that part of the decree be omitted; and they leave unaltered the declaration—"That the boundary line laid down in the survey map as the boundary line of the said Plaintiff's settled estate is not the true boundary line, and that the said Plaintiff is not bound by the said survey map or by the order of the Collector of the 15th April 1859, and the subsequent proceedings thereon."

But after that declaration they propose to insert the following words:—And the Court not defining the true boundary line of the Plaintiff's zemindary of Shooshung, doth further declare that this decree is to be without prejudice to the rights of the Plaintiff to any portion of the lands in dispute as part of his settled zemindary of Shooshung or otherwise." That will prevent any possible misconstruction of the former decree as a decision adverse to the Plaintiff's claim in this suit.

Their Lordships cannot refrain from expressing their opinion that it is extremely desirable that whatever means may be open to the Government for defining and ascertaining the boundary of the Plaintiff's zemindary and his rights in this large tract of land, which under the special Act of 1869 has been put under the peculiar jurisdiction thereby created, should be taken with as little delay as possible.

There may be sound political reasons founded on the peculiar character of the Garrow tribes which justify such an enactment. But care should be taken to prevent such abnormal legislation from interfering more than is absolutely necessary with the private rights of a zemindar under the perpetual settlement. And it is but fair that the Plaintiff, who has already been put to so much expense and trouble in relation to his property, should be relieved from further expense and trouble as much as possible. It must be, one would think, within the power of the survey officers to ascertain the true boundaries of his settled zemindary, which upon the evidence would certainly seem to comprise the villages as to which he has given such strong evidence of title, and, presumably, at least, so much of the disputed land as lies to the south of them.

Their Lordships, therefore, will humbly recommend to Her Majesty to vary the decree of the High Court by inserting the further declaration stated above, and, subject to that variation, to affirm the decree; and they think that, there being some variation of the decree, but that variation not being a very substantial one or going to the full extent of what was claimed by the Appellant, each party should pay his own costs of this appeal."

Nothing could be more condemnatory of the proceedings of Government than the judgments of the High Court and the Privy Council. It is clear that the Government has acted in the most arbitrary and high-handed manner. It is observable that as soon as the Government saw the adverse judgment of the High Court, it put the legislative machinery at work. On the 10th September the Garro Hills Bill was introduced, and it was passed in the course of a fortnight without giving the Raja any opportunity to enter even a protest. The Bill was introduced as we have stated above on the 10th September and passed on the 24th idem, that is to say within an interval of fourteen days. The Council was then sitting in Simla; the Raja was at his usual place of residence at Doorgapore in Zillah Mymensing, the ordinary time taken in dak communication between Simla and Doorgapore is not less than fourteen days, and as a matter of fact the Raja had no notice of the proposed Bill, or knowledge of the contents, until it had become law. He then memorialized the Governor General in Council and the Secretary of State on the subject of the injurious operation on his interests and income of the Garro Hills

Act,, but without success. The judgment of the Privy Council was delivered in April 1874, and the Raja has now submitted a memorial to His Excellency in Council based upon it. We give the following extracts from this memorial:

"That your Memorialist in the month of November 1872 received—letter dated 19th November 1872, from the then Commissioner of Cooch Behar, which Memorialist begs to annex. Your Memorialist respectfully declined to accept the offer of Rupees 50,000 as compensation by the supposed extinction of the interest he had previously had in the Garro Hills, and of Rupees 2,262-11-9 annually for the loss, as stated in the letter, of his right to collect rents being extinguished, and also in lieu of profits arising from trade and other business carried on in the said Hills.

That your Memorialist has to submit that the sums offered were wholly inadequate as compensation for deprivation of the rights for which they were tendered.—Your Memorialist will be able to show that, even at the time when he was stopped from further exercise of his rights, his annual income was upwards of 16,000 Rupees from rental and timber, &c., and his other rights to mines and minerals had not been properly put in force simply because Memorialist was not in a position at the time to lay out money. Your Memorialist had superadded to the above sources the right of capturing elephants and the income from that one source alone, used to make large returns, in certain years up to 40,000 Rupees and even 60,000 Rupees, though the returns were uncertain as to amount but in other respects quite as sure as any other source of income. Your Memorialist has not attempted to adduce evidence on this point because he has been advised that it will add considerably and inconveniently to the bulk of this petition, but your Memorialist will be prepared to show that the amounts mentioned are below and not above the actual amounts that he had been drawing, while the gradual improvement in communication will undoubtedly materially tend to improve and increase the income. Your Memorialist will be quite willing that an enquiry should be ordered, or, if required to do so, your Memorialist will most respectfully lay correct accounts of the different sources of income to prove what they were, if such accounts and statement be considered sufficient and accepted as correct. That your Memorialist need not say more than that under the circumstances, he could not accept the compensation, having regard to the value of the property and rights for which such was offered.

That your Memorialist would further respectfully and humbly submit that it appears to him that it is a thorough mistake to suppose that by the Garro Hills Act 1869, the rights of Memorialist to timber, mines, or any other produce within the territory, which rightfully belongs to him, has been in any way affected, the sole right which it appears has been withdrawn and for which compensation should be assessed being the rights to collect rents cesses, &c., which are now to be raised by Government itself, through its officials, but your Memorialist need not enter into such discussion as the rights for which compensation is necessary will undoubtedly meet every consideration when the question is mooted.

With these remarks your Memorialist will leave his case in your Excellency's hands, and your Memorialist respectfully prays that your Excellency will be pleased to order the adoption of such means as may be necessary "for defining and ascertaining the boundary of the Plaintiffs' Zemindary and his rights in this large tract of land, which under the "special Act of 1869 has been put under the peculiar jurisdiction thereby created" which to use the further words of their Lordships' in Privy Council "should be taken with as little delay as possible." and your Memorialist further most respectfully prays, that the order of the Judicial Commissioner of Cooch Behar conveyed in letter dated 29th January and 13th March 1870 may be withdrawn, in so far as it prohibits Memorialist from exercising any other right in that tract of land to the north of the boundary of the District of Mymensing as fixed by the Revenue Survey, but that which has been specially prohibited by Section 7 of the Garro Hills Act 1869; which does not tend to interfere or prohibit Memorialist from exercising his right to open mines, cut timber, or capture elephants, or do any other act but collect cesses tributes or exactions from the inhabitants of the said territory. and your Memorialist humbly prays that such measures as are necessary may be adopted to prevent the private rights of your Memorialist as a Zemindar under the permanent settlement being interfered with in such part of his territory as is affected by the said Garro Hills Act 1869 and pass such other orders as to Your Excellency may seem meet, and your Memorialist as in duty bound will ever pray."

What a tale of high-handed proceedings does the above narrative disclose! It is the old story of Might is Right. Here was a loyal subject of the Queen, who had inherited from his ancestors an estate, which had a history older than that of the British Raj. This estate was included in the Permanent Settlement concluded by the British Government. Unfortunately a great portion of his estate was inhabited by wild hill tribes, who committed raids; it was certainly necessary to punish them, but what had the Raja done to justify the confiscation of his estate? If theGovernment wanted to keep certain villages under its immediate control for political purposes, it ought to have done so by giving him adequate compensation. It did not even make an offer of compensation until it lost its case in the High Court, and then to cover all legal difficulties, it sought to obtain by "abnormal legislation," as thePrivy Council calls it, what it could not obtain by the ordinary operation of the recognized law of the country. TheGovernment insisted upon the correctness of the Revenue Survey, which extinguished his rights, but the Privy Council is satisfied that he has fully proved his rights. As a show of justice the Government offered in 1872 to pay Rs. 50,000 as compensation, and a nominal rent of Rs. 2262, per annum, for a country, which according to the report of the Bengal Government "is rich in many natural products." It has cotton, coal, timber, and other valuable forest produce, and the Government would take away the Raja's rights by paying him the miserable sum of Rs. 50,000. He is now shut out of every Court. The Garro Hills Act has taken away the jurisdiction of the Courts. Could any thing be more unjust and arbitrary than this? Might has extinguished Right, and we say this under the authority of the highest judicial tribunal of the Queen, we mean the Privy Council. The case now rests with Lord Northbrook. His Lordship's Government had not been connected with its first inception, and it may therefore be presumed to be free from bias one way or another. May we venture to express a hope that His Lordship will show by his decision that under his *regime* Might is *not* Right.

AFGHANISTHAN.

THE *coupt d'etat* of Amir Shere Ali has proved completely successful. Sirdar Yakoob Khan remains a State prisoner in Cabul, while the Amir's troops have quietly taken possession of Herat. Little did we expect that such signal success would attend the Amir's flag within so short a time. There were rumours of great preparations for a war by Yakoob's brother. It was stated that his father-in-law, a chief noted for valour as well as prudence, was the principal adviser in the council of war. Rumour also credited the wives of Yakoob and his brother Yaoob with a desire to take the command in the field. It was stated that Yaoob Khan had 20,000 sowars in Herat, besides those in the field. But all these preparations, it seems, have vanished like the baseless fabric of a vision. Not a shot has been fired, not a drop of blood has been shed. The troops of Amir Shere Ali made such a quick march that they overtook Yaoob Khan with complete surprise. We have not received particulars of the meeting at the gate of Herat; it is somewhat strange that Yaoob suddenly lost heart and beat a retreat. Possibly there was division in his council; possibly there was a lack of the sinews of war; possibly the support promised by Yakoob's adherents was lukewarm; all this is mere speculation, but the broad fact remains that Yaoob Khan did not fight, and that he has fled to Persia.

The successful occupation of Herat has doubtless greatly strengthened the position of Amir Shere Ali. With Yakoob Khan imprisoned in the palace, with Yaoob self-exiled in Persia, he may well feel secure in his throne. Our Government has also good reason for congratulation. When Yakoob was first arrested, it was rumoured that he has been compromised by the policy of the British Government. The Foreign Office indignantly repudiated this charge. But it did more. It enquired about the arrest, and advised the Amir to keep faith with his son. It was even rumoured that if the Amir did not listen to its advice, it would put a stop to the subsidy. This rumour has since been contradicted. The British Government, strictly speaking, does not pay a subsidy to the Amir. As the Calcutta Correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* says, "what Lord Mayo undertook at Umballa was, not to pay the Ameer a subsidy, but to assist him from time to time with arms and money, with a view to enabling him to consolidate his power and maintain order in his dominions. The amount of such assistance and the times at which it should be rendered, were left entirely at the discretion of the Government of India, who might grant or withhold it as they pleased. As a matter of fact, arms and money have been twice supplied to the Ameer, in accordance with this understanding, since the Umballa Durbar." He adds, that "the true state of the case, I believe to be that, at the time the news of Yakoob's seizure reached the Government of India, the question of a fresh present of arms and money to the Ameer was under consideration, and is now in abeyance pending the result of the Viceroy's representations on the subject of Yakoob's arrest." With regard to the reply forwarded by the Amir the same writer says, that "it is authoritatively announced that the Viceroy has received from Shere Ali a conciliatory reply to his message regarding Yakoob Khan's arrest, alleging that the rebellious conduct of his son necessitated the course adopted, and making no mention of any safe-conduct. The Viceroy's message, it will be remembered, was to the effect that he hoped the conditions of Yakoob's visit to Cabul would be observed; and no amount of mere courtesy in the Ameer's reply can do away with the significance of the fact that he entirely ignores the point with which this hope was couped. The Government of India seems inclined to regard the reply as satisfactory; but, if it does so, the circumstance would appear to argue a change of view since the Viceroy first moved in the matter."

The *Indian Statesman* thus expands the position of our Government with regard to the subsidy:

"There may have been a change of view, but if so, it is certain to have been a change signifying no more than that our Government, though as determined as ever to sustain the Ameer against foreign aggression, is also resolved to avoid all interference in the internal affairs of his kingdom. Though hitherto Shere Ali has not had a great deal of money from the Government of India, he is henceforth likely to obtain still less; not that if aid in that way appeared to be essential or highly conducive to, the conservation of the independence of Afghanistan, it would be witheld. Were Shere Ali to resent this complete recurrence to the frontier policy of 1864-69, and to endeavour to ally himself with Russia, he would score his humiliation by such a course. Russia will not interfere in Afghanistan, for that would be to court war with England and India. On the other hand, none better know than the Ameer Shere Ali that were he to attempt such a game, England in India would cease to regard him as in any way a friend, and might dethrone him. But there is no danger of the astute Ameerso committing himself. It is his interest to conciliate the Indian Government, and he will take care not to avoidably contravene the wishes of that Government."

It was we confess a questionable policy for the Government of India to have remonstrated with the Amir regarding the arrest of Yacoob, if it had taken no part in his visit to his father. The honor of our Government could not have been at stake, if it had been neutral. The mystery of the remonstrance has not yet been explained, but the event at Herat ought to satisfy the Government. Shere Ali has hitherto proved the most capable ally our Government has had in Afghanisthan. He knows how to play his cards, and although the method of his action may not be quite in accord with the rules of European diplomacy, the success which has invariably attended him shews that he understands the problem of oriental politics better than Europeans. His action towards Yakoob Khan is not unworthy of a Bismarck. The story seems to be this. Yakoob sought for an interview with his father—how this desire was engendered we do not know—Shere Ali consented, and the son went to be reconciled with the father. Once in Cabul the Amir saw that his son was within his clutches, and he commanded him to recognize Abdulla Jan as his Heir Apparent; Yakoob as a matter of course refused; the Amir made him a prisoner on a charge of disobedience, and it could not be pretented that he was not right in the assertion of his authority. The next step he took was to appoint a new Governor to Herat, and he has occupied the territory unopposed. Thus his success has been complete. He denies the charge of treachery because it is said he did not promise safe-conduct to Yakoob Khan. His policy has been masterly and triumphant, and our Government has ample reason for congratulation. Our interests are bound up with peace and tranquility in Cabul, and so long as the Amir is in power our Government may well feel secure.

THE BENGAL POLICE.

A REVIEW of the Police Report of 1873 in 1875 is necessarily stale, and the Lieutenant Governor himself observes that its "value is very much impaired by the extreme delay, which has attended its preparation." But the Resolution of His Honor is interspersed with remarks on the operations of the Police and the statistics of crime which have imparted it considerable interest. On a comparison of the results of the past with those of the previous year, the number of cognizable offences reported, together with the results of arrests made, we observe, were as follows:

	1872.	1873.
Cases reported	112,883	119,046
Number of persons arrested	88,821	87,478
Finally convicted	48,139	50,540
Acquitted	32,563	32,493

Deducting cases expunged as false, the whole number of true cases cognizable by the police in 1873 was 90,886, against 85,645 in 1872. The net increase of 5,241 cases, Sir Richard Temple remarks, is not entirely the direct result of the scarcity with which the country was threatened at the

end of 1873. Colonel Pughe has presented a careful analysis of the figures, and shows that there was a satisfactory decrese of crime apparent in Bankoora, Dinagepore, Rajshahye, Monghyr, and Bhagulpore, all districts where scarcity prevailed to a greater or less extent; while, on the other hand, Backergunge, Mymensingh, Tipperah, Balasore, Dacca, and Furreedpore, which were not within the famine tracts, show a large increase. Sir Richard does not attribute the increase to any shortcomings of the Police. He thus accounts for it:

"An increase in the crime returns of a district may indicate either greater efficiency of administration by which offences, which otherwise would have been undetected, have been brought to light; by which the landholders and chowkeydars have acted up to their duty of reporting crime; or by which people are encouraged to come forward with complaints who otherwise would have failed to seek redress. To all these causes may be attributed in some measure the results noticed in the returns of 1873. The duties of landholders and of the rural police have been more clearly defined and explained to them; more free use has been made of the sub-divisional system; a large addition has been made to the staff of judicial officers by the investment of selected sub-deputies with magisterial powers; honorary magistrates have been appointed, and benches have been constituted for the speedy disposal of complaints. Still in some districts there has been a real increase of crime, which has not in all cases been successfully dealt with. In all the districts of the Patna division, except Sarun, Chumparun, and Patna, there has been, the Commissioner points out, a real increase in offences against property. In Rungpore there was a marked increase, especially in the more serious offences against property. In Bogra, crime in 1873 was nearly double that in 1872. In Moorshedabad the police are deteriorating, and the effect is visible in the crime returns. In the Dacca division there has been a large increase, chiefly in minor offences against person and property."

There is certainly much truth in what the Lieutenant Governor says; but we have no means of knowing how far the police were instrumental in the preferring of false complaints as a pretext for extortion. On the subject of false complaints the Lieutenant Governor remarks:

"The number of cases struck off as false were, His Honor observes, slightly more in 1873 than in the previous year. Compared with 1871, a much greater increase is observable, amounting to 8,384 cases in all. Of a total of 119,046 cases reported in 1873, 28,160 were expunged, or 23·7 per cent. In 1872 the percentage was 24·1, 27,238 cases having been declared false out of 112,883 reported. The ratios differ so widely even in adjoining districts, that it is not possible to avoid attributing the results in some measure to peculiarities in the procedure of various officers."

The police is notoriously an instrument of oppression in the Mofussil, but the people are too timid to complain, and but too often weep over their wrongs in silence. This is a defect in the national character, which we cannot too strongly regret. But do the people, when they do complain, obtain the needful redress? Take the now notorious *pseudo*-murder case of Howrah, in which Issur Napit was charged by the Police with the murder of his daughter. The facts of that monstrous case must be still fresh in the minds of our readers, but what was the upshot? The Government took no steps whatever to bring the Police myrmidons to justice. It was left to the poor man with such assistance as he could get from public-spirited individuals to prosecute his oppressors. They were convicted by a Jury, and their conviction was substantially upheld by the High Court, but what was the result? Sir George Campbell in the excercise of the Queen's prerogative remitted the sentence upon Nimchand, the Police Inspector, and the Burdwan Commissioner has since we learn provided him with a swig appointment in his office. On the other hand Issur Napit, the victim of the conspiracy of the Police, has been absolutely ruined in seeking to vindicate himself. The Government as representing the public ought to have prosecuted the Police, but it left the prosecution to the aggrieved, and although he succeeded in bringing home the charges against the Police, it has not paid a pice for the defrayal of the expenses he has incurred. He has over and over petitioned the Government for the payment of his expenses, but without effect. With these facts before the public is it a matter of wonder that poor villagers in the Mofusil are slow to bring charges of oppression against the Police? The reader is of course aware what the bringing of a charge against the police means. It means the inviting the police to a chronic war against the particular individual, and as the saying goes, the fishes can no more afford to dwell in water by quarrelling with the alligator than the poor villagers of Bengal can afford to quarrel with the Police and live in their neighbourhood. The new Police has undoubtedly proved an improvement upon the old, but the good which it was calculated to accomplish has been neutralized by the changes, which have been introduced in its constitution from time to time. The grand principle, which the authors of the Police reform of 1861 started, was that the thief-catcher shall not be the thief-trier. By separating the judiciary from the executive a healthy antagonism was introduced between the two, and the result was a gain to the people. The Magistrate not having a direct interest in the good name of the Police treated it with impartiality, and acted, as his position implies, the true protector of the people, while the Superintendent of Police, who however he might pooh-pooh poor and weak villagers, could not afford to ignore the opinion of the Magistrate, naturally exerted himself to keep his men to their proper bearings. This was a decidedly healthy antagonism, and although many of the first men, who had been put in charge of the District Police were neither able nor experienced, still the Police, worked satisfactorily enough. But the Police is the visible emblem of power in the Mofusil, and the Magistrate did not like the withdrawal of his control over it. Like the Turk he could not bear a brother near the throne, and our civilian Governors naturally sympathized with men of their own cloth. Gradually the Police Superintendent was completely subordinated to the District Magistrate. He has now been reduced to a drill serjeant and reference clerk. He has no real power—he cannot appoint, promote, dismiss or transfer a man without the order of the Magistrate. He cannot even correspond except through the medium of the Magistrate. When such is the use, may we not ask what good is subserved by retaining such a highly-paid officer at the head of the Police? Far better that the sinecure should be abolished and that the Magistrate should be made wholly responsible for the management of the Police than that a show attachment to a sound principle should be maintained to the delusion of the public. We have written so often on the subject of Police reform that we need not repeat what we have said before but we may thus sum up our conclusions.

I. The District Superintendent of Police should be made responsible for the supervision of the Police both in theory and practice. It should be his duty to look after the organization, discipline, and operations of the Police. He should have the right to appoint, promote, transfer and dismiss the men,

II. The District Magistrate should have no executive control over the Police, but should have power to refer special cases to the Police, and call for special reports. It should also be his duty to submit a monthly report to Government on the crime and Police operations in his district.

III. The office of Deputy Inspector General of Police should be abolished.

IV. The Divisional Commissioner should have full executive control over the Police. He should be the medium of communication between the District Superintendent and Government, and as he is a roving officer, he will have ample opportunity to compare notes from the several districts placed under his control.

V. The office of Inspector General of Police should be abolished, and his duties should be performed by a Government Secretary.

VI. Experienced Native Magistrates should be appointed in the higher grades of the Police service.

These are the main features of our scheme of Police reform; we may take a future opportunity to dilate on them. In the meantime we invite those, who are interested in Police reform, and are possessed of experience, to give their opinions on this vitally important subject.

ANTIQUITIES OF ORISSA.

WE hail with double pleasure the appearance of the first volume of Antiquities of Orissa by Babu Rajendralala Mitra—firstly because the author was taken seriously ill from the effects of his journey immediately after his tour of research in Orissa in 1869, so serious that his life was almost despaired of, not to mention the recurrence of attacks afterwards, but under the blessing of the All-Merciful Providence he has been enabled to complete the first volume of his really magnificent work, and secondly because it marks an important epoch in the history of Anglo-Indian literature. This book we may say constitutes a proud memorial of British rule in India. The spirit of research which the author displays is entirely due to Western culture, which has followed Western rule in the East. Although our author is not indebted to the British Government for his education—he was brought up in a private seminary—still if the English had not come to India, infused a desire for English education, and engendered that love of learned research which Englishmen brought into this country, Babu Rajendralala Mitra, notwithstanding all the knowledge which he might have acquired through the oriental languages, would have in all likelihood lived and died like many other Pundits in India, profoundly learned, but shut out from the world of modern thought and literature. It is the English language, which constitutes the Promethean fire, wherewith to vivify the dead bones of oriental literature, science, and art. It is the medium of communication for the Indian with the mighty minds of Europe. It is the passport to the republic of letters in the civilized world. Apart from the social, political, and moral advantages which English education has conferred upon the people of this country, the service it has rendered to the cause of intellectual progress and freedom in India cannot be adequately expressed in words. The intellectual labors of one man like Babu Rajendralala Mitra are worth all the money which the Government has laid out from the public treasury for the diffusion of English education and the fostering of Western culture.

The work before us is magnificent in every respect. Its conception, execution, and illustrations are equally magnificent. The subject throws a flood of light on the ancient civilization of India. The Antiquities of Orissa, as represented, elucidated and analyzed by Babu Rejendralala Mitra, shew what a progress was made by our ancestors in Art. It argues no mean power in the man, who can deduce the intellectual and social history of a nation from its ancient remains, and the author has shewn that power to the highest advantage. Indian literature, as Babu Rajendralala Mitra, justly observes, is almost devoid of all authentic historical records. Whilst every branch of ancient learning has had its earnest and most devoted cultivators, the muse of history can scarcely claim one votary. In antiquity the Sanhita of the Rig Veda, as the earliest record of the Aryan race extant, our author observes, holds a higher rank than even the oldest writings of the Jewish race. In general excellence, the Ramayana yields not the palm of superiority to the Illiad of Homer. And in depth of knowledge and subtlety of argument the Darsanas of India bear no unfavourable comparison to those of the greatest philosophers of ancient Greece. The Grammar of Panini stands unrivalled and unique in its own line; and in astronomy, mathematics, logic and rhetoric, in romance and legends, in law and civil polity, in medicine, music and dramatic composition, there is an extent of ancient literature still existing, the like of which can nowhere be met with, except perhaps in Rome and China. Yet India never produced a Zenophon or a Thucydides, and her heroes and their mighty exploits, her greatness and her early civilization, where they live, live but in song. Nor are the shortcomings of written history of India supplied by her ancient monuments. The ravages of time and of her climate, the hostility of rival sectaries and Governments, and the iconoclastic zeal of Moslem fanatics, have swept away most of them from the face of the earth, and the few that remain can ill tell their tale with sufficient precision to meet the requirements of the historian. To quote the language of Sir Thomas Browne, "oblivion reclineth on her pyramids, gloriously triumphing, making puzzles of Titanian erections, and turning old glories into dreams. History sinketh before her cloud. The Traveller, as he passeth amazingly through those deserts, asketh of her, who builded them; and she mumbleth something, but what it is, he heareth not." The prospect of the historian of ancient India is thus not at all promising. "There is, however," to quote our author again, "no limit to human enquiry; and much may be done by diligence and industry even in fields which appear at first sight to be gloomy and forbidding. Moreover, every literature, however fabulous or mythical

may be its character, has an historical value, and that of India cannot be an exception. Tales, traditions and romances, the ordinances of kings and the pandects of law-givers, the rituals of religion and the musings of poets, must all take their tone and character from the state of society in which they are developed, and cannot but serve, imperfectly though it be, annals of civilization. In the same way, almost every monument or curved stone, every ornament or utensil, however rude, or monstrous or grotesque may be its design, bears on its face an index to intellectual condition of some individual or community and may be made, with proper care, to yield an acceptable contribution to the cause of history. And inasmuch as such materials are by no means wanting in this country, though they lie scattered, unknown, or neglected, covered by the shroud of dead languages or buried under the rubbish of ages, there is yet room for hope. From their peculiar nature such materials may be expected most in isolated places, which have been comparatively little exposed to the tide of foreign invasion. There they are least subject to external, religious, moral and social influences, and are better able to retain their original character than in the great seats of commerce where many nations constantly come into familiar contact." And these are the materials, which Babu Rajendralala has used in reading the unwritten history of India, though the subject-matter of his book refers chiefly to Orissa. There is not a point in this history, which he has not adorned by the richness of his own mind; not a thesis connected with this vast subject which he has not elucidated and elaborated by the comprehensiveness of his own learning, the depth of his own erudition and research, the strength of his own intellect, and the philosophy of his own consciousness. He has vindicated Indian art from the attacks of ill-informed critics, demolished theories, which had hitherto commanded blind assent from a sense of veneration for the names of their authors, evolved land-marks of social history which had hitherto been lost in the dark waters of ignorant speculation, and given a tongue to dumb memorials, which had hitherto in vain appealed to the enquirer. By these labors Babu Rajendralala Mitra has set an example to his educated countrymen, which we wish were followed in the spirit in which he has worked. The history of the work is thus given in the preface:

"In 1868, the Government of India, at the suggestion of the Royal Society of Arts, London, assigned a large sum of money for the purpose of obtaining casts of some of more important sculptures of ancient India. To carry out this object, a part of the sum was made over to the Government of Bengal, leaving it to make its own selection of the subjects, which it might think were likely to be the most interesting and best calculated to fulfil the object of the Government. In connexion with this grant, I suggested, in reply to an enquiry of Sir William Grey, then Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, that the party of modellers and moulders which the Government was then about to send to Orissa should proceed to Bhuvanesvara, where it would find the oldest and most interesting specimens of Hindu architechural ornament, and added that it would be well to depute along with it a person familiar with Indian antiquarian remains, so that some historical and descriptive accounts might be secured of the several monuments from which casts would be taken. My suggestions were approved by the Bengal Government and I was directed to accompany, as archæologist, the party of moulders, draftsmen and photographers which was sent down to Bhuvanesvara in the winter of 1868-69. The following pages are the result of my labors in connexion with this mission."

The Government has made a liberal grant for the publication of this book. Its chief merit is that it is thoroughly Indian. The author is an Indian, the subject is Indian, the typographical execution Indian, and the plates done by Indians, and the work taken as a whole reflects the highest credit upon India. The getting-up is excellent, and the plates, chiefly executed by the students of the Calcutta School of Arts are splendid. There is no less than 207 plates in the first volume, and each plate is a work of art. It is a pity that when such work can be had here, the artists are not sufficiently encouraged by the public. Babu Rajendralala Mitra's book ought to satisfy the most fastidious, and convince the public of the wrong which they do to India by going to Europe for jobs of this kind.

We have neither time nor space to expatiate on the literary excellence of this monument of Anglo-Indian literature. We may say in one sentence that it is such of which any European author might well feel proud. Our author is equally happy in description and disputation. The command he displays over the technicology of Art is something wonderful. There is a pleasure in reading his accounts of the development of Art in India, of the different schools of Art in the ancient world, of the relation which they bore to one another, and of their influence on the progress of civilization. To the light afforded on the history of ancient India by Art he has added that afforded by song and tradition. His analysis of the religion of the temple-builders of India is most thoughtful and edifying. As a brick cannot be a fair specimen of the magnificence of the temples he has described, so a few extracts here and there, for which however we have not space, cannot convey to the reader an adequate idea of the excellence of the work, the appearance of which it is our pleasure to announce to-day. Unfortunately the high price set upon it by reason of the heavy cost which it has entailed places it beyond the reach of the majority of the reading public.

THE GAEKWAR'S TRIAL.

WE take from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week regarding the Gaekwar's trial:

FIFTH DAY.

Baroda, 27th February 15h. 26m.—Colonel Phayre's examination was continued to-day. He telegraphed to Government about the poisoning; and for four days secret enquiries were made. The Gaekwar visited him on the 12th. He scraped up a portion of the chunam from the verandah, and sent for Dr. Seward. He was cross-examined and bullied about his removal from Scinde. Serjeant Ballantine insinuated that it was because he was found incompetent. Colonel Phayre indignantly repudiated this, and exonerated Government. Sergeant Ballantine asked whether Colonel Phayre was aware that the Gaekwar possessed the document removing him from his Scind appointment. Colonel Phayre said "no." The Gaekwar, if he possessed such a document must have become possessed of it dishonestly. He could not possess such a paper unless through the Resident. Mr. Scoble objected to this cross-examination. Sergeant Ballantine urged that it was admissible, because it tended to show whether Colonel Phayre acted with discretion. The Commission allowed the cross-examination. Colonel Phayre characterized the people as broken-hearted. Serjeant Ballantine retorted by referring to the injured prince. Colonel Phayre, in a letter to Dr. Seward, stated that from private confidential sources he had learnt the poison in the sherbet consisted of arsenic, diamond, and copper. Pressed as to the source of his information, he could not tell who was his informer. He state that Bhau Poonika was impartial towards the Gaekwar.

28th February 16h.—Colonel Phyare's cross-examination was continued after tiffin. He admitted having just seen Bhow Poonika, who told him that he was the man who gave the secret confidential information about the poison. Many people used to come to the Residency and volunteer information. Informers were never paid anything. Dr. Seward was examined and partly corroborated Colonel Phayre's statements about poisoning. The President remarked in the copies of the evidence supplied by the Government reporter some omissions in the ayah's evidence. The missing portion was ordered to be reprinted. Scindia was not present, and the President announced that he was unwell. The Gaekwar was present in the forenoon. Colonel Phayre's cross-examination was very severe, and the Colonel exceedingly irritable, and attempted retort upon Serjeant Ballantine and the Gaekwar, but was checked by the President. Interpreter Flynn has returned to Bombay. The documents regarding Colonel Phayre's removal from Scinde were telegraphed for from Bombay. Colonel Phayre laid stress upon the date of the Gaekwar's marriage, and the brith of the child. Sergeant Ballantine would not discuss the law on that subject. The Parsee interpreter amused the Court, frequently appealing to Sergeant Ballantine for time to interpret. Damodur Punt's examination is looked forward to anxiously. Important disclosures are expected. The poisoning evidence commenced, with Colonel Phayre's examination.

SIXTH DAY.

March 1st, 15h. 29m.—Dr. Seward's examination continued. He confirmed Colonel Phayre's statements regarding the circumstances which happened on the 9th November. Described the elaborate analytical tests he conducted with the sediment. Discovered arsenic and diamond dust. Placed sediment in a test tube—used the charcoal test. Observed metallic rings round the inside of the tube, being the usual indication of arsenic. Dried a portion of the sediment and placed a portion between glass plates. He then rubbed both together. Found glasses to be scratched. Placed the sediment under the microscope. Found white granular bodies which struck him as being somewhat like powdered arsenic. He also observed some dark particles heated the sediment in flame. Found moisture deposited on the upper part of the tube. Removed the moisture with blotting paper. Heated the moisture under flame and observed the metallic ring. Saw crystalized deposit on the side of the tube both above and below the ring. Under the microscope crystals were seen, lustrous and octohedral. Those indicated arsenic. He made no further experiments because he had no chemicals. He threw away the liquid, after keeping the sediment. Sent a portion of the sediment to Mr. Gray. He remembered Colonel Phayre's statement that his life was threatened. Dark sediment was not consistent with arsenic and diamond dust. The sediment was a faint fawn colour. No other metals prudnce octohedral crystals. Re-examined as to seeing the ayah in the hospital. Dr. Seward resenting Serjeant Ballantyne's questions occasionally, the former said when questioned regarding his talk with the ayah in the hospital, that there was no interpretation of the conversation. He said if he were tasked till doomsday he could not say whether the policeman interpreted.

March 1st 17h. 40m.—Dr. Gray, Chemical Analyser to the Bombay Government spoke to the analysis made by him of the packets sent him by Dr. Seward. He vouched to the deposits being arsenic and other glittering particles insoluble. He bore but Dr. Seward's statements as to the metallic rings in test tubes. He analysed twice the sediment. Once with the chunam from the verandah. He said that authorities were agreed that diamond dust was not poisonous. The Cross examination was adjourned until to-morrow. Serjeant Ballantine is suffering from a bad throat.

SEVENTH DAY.

2nd March, 15h.—Dr. Gray's cross-examination.—He subjected the arsenic found to no other examination except the microscope. He said if Colonel Phayre took any arsenic it must have been a very small quantity. Re-examined by Mr. Scoble.—He said he used the sublimate test, but discovered no copper in the sediment sent by Dr. Seward. He found some arsenic in the third packet. Abdoolla Wulli Mahomed spoke to making the sherbet on the morning of the 9th for Colonel Phayre. Govind Baloo and Yellapah Nursoo, Hammals, spoke to cleaning the verandah and the rooms of the Residency. There was no cross-examination of the last three witnesses. Luxemon Durar Sing, examined, spoke to cleaning Colonel Phayre's room. Rowjee the Residency Havildar, examined.—He said that Salim invited him to the palace, saying that the Gaekwar wanted him. He went to the palace two months before the Commission assembled, with Yeswunt Rao and Salim. The Gaekwar asked him to obtain information from the Residency, and promised him presents. He went there four times after this. He used to communicate the names of the visitors to the Residency. The Gaekwar expressed a wish to be, and was, present, during the examination of the last witness. The interest in the trial is unabated. Jumrish Moah, Cantonment Kotwal, spoke to being asked by Dr. Seward to make enquiries. Meghe Jugga saw Salim on the 9th.

2nd March, 17h. 25m.—Rawjee's examination.—He went three times to the palace during the sittings of the Commission. He related all he had heard regarding the sittings of the Commission. He received five hundred (Rupees) for affording information. He arranged with the Residency Jemadar, Nursoo to visit the Gaekwar. on these occasions he saw the Gaekwar. He arranged for communicating news through the agency of Salim. He frequently communicated news, both personally and by letters. He visited the Gaekwar once at Nowsaree. After his (the Gaekwar's) return he went thrice with the butler, Pedro. He detailed the particulars of the interviews. At one interview the Gaekwar gave a pachet to the butler. He said it contained poison, and asked the butler to put it into Colonel Phayres' food. He told the butler it was slow poisoning. This witness contradicted the butler's evidence, Serjeant Ballantine was absent in the afternoon, he has a bad cold. It is getting hotter daily.

Bombay, 2nd March, 22h. 36m.—The Gaekwar and Colonel Pelly were absent Gray cross-examined by Ballantine, stated that he found no copper in sherbet. Copper would produce nausea in less than half an hour and also salivation as Colonel Phayre described. Arsenic would produce the same effect after repeated doses leaving a coppery taste; several residency servants were called and established minor points. Rowjee called, Ballantine asked that the Gaekwar he sent for. The Gaekwar came. Rowjee examined at great length detailing interviews with the Maharajah said that Pedro visited the Maharajah on the last occasion and told him that the feeling at the residency was favourable to him. The Maharajah asked; would you do something if I gave you something? Pedro said, if possible. The Maharajah asked Yeswuntrao for a packet and handed it to Pedro who asked the contents. The Gaekwar said poison. Pedro then asked what do you want me to do? The Gaekwar; give it to the Sahib in his food. Pedro said, if I do the Sahib dies suddenly I am ruined. The Maharajah said nothing will happen suddenly he will die in two or three months. Pedro and the witness then left with the package.

EIGHTH DAY.

3rd March, 14h. 47m.—Rawjee's examination continued.—He went again to the palace with the Residency Havildar, and received Rs. 300 from Nursoo. He again visited the palace, accompanied by Salim, Nursoo, and Eshwuntrao. The Maharajah asked if the witness would put poison into Colonel Phayre's sherbet. He agreed, and Nursoo afterwards brought (bought?), and gave him two powders. The Maharajah promised them each one lac of rupees. The witness made the powders into three divisions, keeping a small residue. Witness next put one powder with his own hand into Colonel Phayre's sherbet, every alternate day, following the Maharajah's directions as to the mode of administration. He went eight days after to the palace with Salim, Nursoo and Eshwuntrao. The Maharajah abused him, saying, "You have not done what I wished. Witness replied that he had. While leaving, he saw something put into Nursoo's hand, which Nursoo gave him the next day. He found it to be a blackish powder. Received the packet of powder on Saturday, and put it into Colonel Phayre's sherbet on Monday. Met Salim afterwards, and told him he had done the job. Told Salim that a letter had been sent to Dr. Seward, and that he would be disgraced.

March 3rd, 17h. 35m. Examination of Rawjee continued—When I was arrested I made a false statement; but on a promise of pardon made a full and true confession. The peon's belt in which the poison was carried about by the witness was put in as evidence. Liquid poison in vial was given to put into the bathing tub, the witness took home tied under his pyjamas. The liquid escaped and caused a boil or sore on his stomach. He therefore threw it away fearing sudden injury to Colonel Phayre. Cross-examined he said that he agreed to poison Colonel Phayre because he was poor and one lakh of rupees was offered to him. Did not succeed in poisoning, and therefore did not ask for the reward. He blamed Fyzoo because Fyzoo was suspected. The drift of the cross-examination was to throw discredit upon the evidence, and hinting that the poison was introduced into the belt by the police. Dr. Gray was examined as to the scars on Rawjee's stomach. In his opinion they might have been caused either by caustic, hot iron or liquid arsenic. Colonel Pelly has been absent for the last two days Cursetjee has come as interpreter

instead of Mr. Flyn. The interpretation was frequently questioned as to its correctness.

3rd March, 20h. 19m. The Gaekwar was present in the forenoon. Rowjee's evidence occupied the whole of the day. He detailed the interview of himself, Nursoo and the Maharajah, after that of Pedro when the Maharajah offered them a lakh each to poison Colonel Phayre. Next day witness received some poison and gave a portion of it in the sherbet on the ninth, and kept the remainder of the poison in his belt. Introduced belt to Khan Sahib who found poison there. Cross-examined he said he never had a quarrel with Colonel Phayre, but agreed to murder him for a lakh of rupees because he was asked by the Gaekwar.

NINTH DAY.

4th March, 15th.—Nursoy, the Residency, Jemadar spoke being incited to visit the Gaekwar by Salim, Raojee and Yeshwuntrao after the Commission left Baroda. Nothing was said regarding poisoning upon the first occasion. While at Nowsaree he received two fifty rupees from Raojee. He agreed upon poisoning Colonel Phayre. He received two packets of poison from Salim and made it over to Raojee. In cross-examination he admitted that he had been thirty years as a servant. Attributed predestination as the cause of his engaging in conspiracy. He addmitted that he confessed falsehoods to Colonel Phyre, but afterwards he stated the whole truth. He denied that Rawjee and others agreed to charge the Gaekwar with instigating poisoning. Rawjee was in the habit of writing for the Gaekwar private conversations at the Residency. He had no communication with Rawjee Sing's arrest. Before his statement was made no condition of pardon was held out. When he was arrested he felt ashamed. His head turned and he fell into the well. He agreed to poison because hopes of maintenance for life were held out to him. The Commission will not sit on Saturday on account of a Hindoo Holiday.

4th March, 17h. 25m.—NURSOO continued. He said, had no conversation with Raojee about poison. Dinker Rao, questioned witness on one or two salient points. Two punkawallahs examined. Nothing important elicited. Evidence chiefly as to visit to Havlee. Raojee's demeanour in court left a general unfavourable impression against him. Scindia was absent during afternoon. The Gaekwar was present all day.

Bombay, 4th March, 20h. 40m.—The Maharajah was present all day, Sir L. Pelly in the forenoon. Nursoo Jemadar was called and stated that he had been 33 years in the Residency service Rowjee asked him to go to the Palace. He refused at first, but ultimately went. When the Gaekwar saw him he said "this man is a rogue, why bring him here?" Rowjee, said witness, would not be a rogue now. Witness promised to communicate news from the Residency through Salim. At the second interview Mulharao asked him to put poison in Colonel Phayre's food; and he said he had nothing to do with the food, Rowjee offered to put it in the sherbet. The poison was given to him the next day, and he handed it to Rowjee. Received 300 rupees. Cross-examined by Serjeant Ballantine he said he charged Fyzoo with the poisoning because everybody else did. He knew that Fyzoo was innocent, but when everybody suspected him, he thought it best to say the same. He did not know that Rowjee and other servants had charged the Maharajah. Rowjee in evidence yesterday said he made his confession in the presence Nursoo, having been asked by the other servants to tell the truth as they had.

TENTH DAY.

5th March, 15h. 30m—Dajeebhoy spoke to the jewels having been [ordered to be]made by Raojee. The gold-mith who made the jewels was examined. The witness spoke to papers being found in Salim's house. Akbar Ali, head detective of the police, was examined about the poison discovered in Raojee's belt. Severe cross-examination regarding the poison in the belt; also about the prisoners all communicating with each other. It was stated that two Borahs were sent to jail, because Dameodur Punt confessed that he got the poison from them. Mr. Scoble ask the President to make a note of the objections regarding the admission of letters. The President replied, that there was no court of appeal. There will be no Court till Monday. The prosecution is likely to close by nextweek. Scindia and Gaekwar were absent today.

5th March, 17h. 14m.—Mr. Boevey's examined—Said he was the Assistant Resiedent at the time of the poisoning. He related the occurrences the day after the poisoning. Cross-examined he said that the knew Bhan Punika who was constantly at the Residency. Punika often gave information of occurrences from the palace. He never was remunerated for doing so. He saw no preparations of arsenic of copper either before or after the attempt was made.

Bombay, 5th March.—Mulharrao and Scindia were absent. Several witnesses proved diverse points coroborative of Rowjee's evidence. Two goldsmiths proved making ornaments for him value upwards of Rs. 5000. Akbar Ali proved finding a package of arsenic in Rowjee's Belt. Cross-examined by Serjeant Ballantine said the reason there was no bottom in the pocket now was that he tripped it open when the pocket was bound has care of 22 witnesses. Two Borahs were sent to jail after fruitless endeavours to corroborate Damodhur Punt. Witness said that there was another matter to be inquired into after this. Mr. Boevey called said the ayah was absent. On several occasions he heard her confess to visiting the Palace and getting money. The trial was adjourned till Mondy.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE has recorded a careful, comprehensive, fair and liberal minute on the education of the "poor whites" in Calcutta. He made a full enquiry into the subject through the Commissioner of Police, and has come to the conclusion that something ought to be done for the education of the children of the European and East India population of Calcutta. He seems to proceed on the assumption that it is the duty of the State to provide for the education of every boy and girl living under British sway in this country. Of course he is not responsible for the policy laid down for the education of the "poor whites" in India, but it should be remembered that the Government cannot pursue an one-sided policy in this matter; it must do equal justice to all classes of the population, and has it means to fulfil this self-imposed obligation? It appears from the statistics furnished by the Police Commissioner that one-third of the children of the European and East Indian population of Calcutta are without education, and Sir Richard Temple has accordingly determined that grants-in-aid should be given to private individuals and bodies for the education of those, who are destitute of means for obtaining it. He seems to be at the same time conscious that special provision for "poor whites" requires similar provision for poor natives, and he asks "whether we ought not by parity of reasoning, to do something of a corresponding nature for the poorer classes of Natives in the same city." We would accordingly give Government aid to native patshallas in Calcutta. This is certainly fair and equitable. But if the Government undertakes to educate every native child in the same way as it proposes to educate every European child, it must be prepared for an enormous expenditure, and where is the money to come from? We have touched only upon the financial aspect of the question—its political and practical bearings we will notice hearafter.

SOME CURIOSITY is felt as to why the Government is delaying to make Mr. Paul's appointment to the office of Advocate General permanent. He has been acting in that capacity for more than three years, and the Government has more than once acknowledged the value of his services. Why he is not then made permanent? It is said that it is contemplated to give the office to an outsider. If Mr. Paul has given satisfaction we do not see why he should be superseded by an outsider. He once held a seat on the bench of the High Court, and rendered good service to Government in connection with Ameer Khan's case. There seems to be a feeling somewhere that Mr. Paul's claim is put off because he is an Armenian, but we cannot believe that Lord Northbrook shares that feeling,

COL. KEATINGE has appointed Captain T. J. Williams, R. E. to officiate for Col. Trevor as Superintending Engineer, and Secy. to the Government of Assam in the Public Works Department. This gentleman is said to be son-in-law to the Chief Commissioner. His appointment to the Public Works Department, we are informed, dates from the 4th December last, and he is at once considered fit to be Engineer-in-chief of the province of Assam. Such an act of egregious favoritism is almost unknown. It involves gross injustice to a deserving native officer, Babu Bholanath Das, who was we believe named in 1873 as *locum tenens* for Col. Trevor, and who is Captain Williams' senior by 12 years. But there is the still more important question as to whether such a young and inexperienced officer is fit to control this large and difficult Department. This is the way our money goes.

ANOTHFR *salaming contretemps* has arisen in Assam. A correspondent informs us that a European officer of Gowhatty lately distinguished himself by assaulting a native school-master for omitting to salam him. As legal proceedings are likely to be instituted, we refrain from giving names and making comments. We are told that this officer was removed from civil employ by Sir William Grey.

WE HAVE RECEIVED the following from a correspondent:

"On Thursday afternoon last Mr. Justice Louis Jackson and Mr. Justice McDonell while sitting on special appeals are said to have given judgment reversing a decree of a zilla court of appeal on hearing the pleader for the appellant only without calling upon the pleader for the respondent to reply. This unusual course took all those that were present by surprise and specially the pleader for the respondent, who was expecting the judges to decide in his favor, and perhaps in a whispering tone asking his client sitting behind him for a reward. On being reminded however that the respondent was not heard the learned judges called for an answer and then delivered the final judgment of the court. It is to be extremely regretted that the Judges of the highest court in the country should give so much weight to the *exparte* statement of a case as to lose sight of the existence of an opposite party or not to remember that the story of the opposite party remained yet untold. Mr. Justice Jackson above all should not have committed the blunder when the smallest breach in the observance of form on the part of a pleader is made by the learned judge the subject of a severe censure or cutting sarcasm."

THE SAME WRITER says:

"It is said that Mr. Cecil Jackson, Barrister-at-law, son of Mr. Justice Jackson, is retained as a counsel in good many cases that are set down for hearing before the 3rd bench of the appellate High Court the Senior Judge of which is Mr. Justice Jackson. We for our part do not see anything objectionable in this. The merest accident that a person happens to be the son of a judge should not prejudice his interests as a professional man; but considering the peculiar condition of our country and the ignorance of the suitors, who resort to our law-courts, might it not be worthy of Mr. Justice Jackson's consideration whether he should sit in cases in which his son might be engaged? We are told that the late Mr. Justice Bayley refused to sit in judgment upon cases which came as appeals from the decisions of his brother whilst the latter served as a District Judge. Mr. Justice Kemp also the other day transferred the district of Tipperah from his bench to another bench simply on the ground that his son is the manager of the Raja of Tipperah who occasionally figures as a party in the cause board."

THE FOLLOWING OFFICIAL INTELLIGENCE has been received of the sad fate of the party composing the Yunan expedition:

"Colonel Browne and his party set out from Bhamo, about the middle of last month under what appeared to be the fairest auspices. The Government of India had been careful to obtain passports from the Imperial Government, who had also written mandates to the Provincial Governors to ensure the favorable reception of the expedition. Mr. Margary, a Consular officer of the Chinese Legation, and Interpreter to the Mission, had traversed China from Shanghai, had been everywhere received with marked courtesy and attention, specially by Leesee Tabee, an Imperialist General and the Chief Official of the town of Nangtin. Colonel Browne selected the upper of the three routes from Bhamo to Yunan, which is well-travelled, but had not reached Manwein when his party was attacked by a body of Chinese and hillmen, led by the nephew of Leesee Tabee, and said to have been the vangurd of an army of 3,000 men despatched by the Chinese Governor of Momein to annihilate the British Officers. Colonel Browne and his officers, after some fighting, made good their retreat to Tsitkaw, a place within the Burmese Shan States; but we regret to add that Mr. Margary, who appears to have preceded the party to Manwein, has been treacherously murdered at that place. Mr. Elias, the well-known traveller, was making his way along the lower or Sawaddee route. He has been re-called, and we trust soon to hear of his safety. From the imperfect information before us, it is impossible to assign any intelligible reason for the attack on the party. Mr. Ney Elias, who was proceeding by the lower or Sawaddy route, has been recalled."

The *Englishman* darkly hints that it may be necessary to send out an expedition, and that orders have come from England to keep the troops ready.

A CORRESPONDENT thus writes from Sonthalisthan:

"About 7 or 8 months ago, a lage number of Sonthal, about a thousand, went in a body to the shrine of "Modhushudun," a temple of the Hindus, in order to worship and offer presents to that deity with a view to obtain an equal position with their Hindoo neighbours. Their ringleader, who in a frenzy of his ambition gave out that he dreamed of the future aggrandizement of his race in the position of governor by the interposition of Hindu Gods, was arrested and has been since in prison. A few months after they assembled again to offer a general sacrifice to the Hindu Gods in the hope of their being liberated from the subjection of the Zemindars; and the ringleader of this assembly having deposed, in a fit of distraction probably, the effect of an ill-regulated desperate passion for the good of his race, to the same effect as stated above, has shared the same fate with his predecessor. They have again collected somewhere near Mohespur in a greater number than before with some secret motive yet unknown and offering sacrifices to the Hindu Gods."

THE SAME CORRESPONDENT says :

"Will you please ask the Government why the Sonthalia Authorities are delaying in paying up the salaries of those men who were employed in the Famine Relief works and whose services have been long dispensed with. Is there not a Government Ruling to the effect that the salaries of discharged public servants should be sent to them at their home by Public Transfer Receipts ?"

ANOTHER illustration of the working of the summary trial clauses of the Criminal Procedure Act. We reported sometime ago the Bellore case. It was originally tried summarily by Mr. Grant, the Joint-Magistrate of Howrah, and the prisoners were convicted, and sentenced each to six weeks' rigorous imprisonment. On motion being made under Section 295 of the Criminal Procedure Code, the case was referred to the High Court by Mr. Prinsep, the Sessions Judge of Hooghly, which quashed the proceedings and ordered a re-trial. The case was then tried by Mr. Meres, the Joint-Magistrate of Hooghly, who conducted the trial in a regular way, and has acquitted the prisoners. Comments on the above are superfluous, but we will make some comments when we receive all the papers in the case.

WE CONGRATULATE His Highness the Maharaja of Vizianagram on the success which has attended his Majority Bill. The Hon'ble Mr. Dalyell thus complimented him :

"Then Mr. Dalyell said that whatever view might be taken of the particular provisions of the bill under consideration, he felt sure that it must be a satisfaction to every member present that their Honorable friend of Vizianagram should have set so good an example, as the first of his countrymen to introduce into the Council a measure of legislation, and that he should have selected a subject, the importance of which his intimate acquaintance with the wants of all classes of the people so well fitted him to understand, and which his long experience as a member of the Council had enabled him to put into so proper a shape. As representing the Presidency to which His Highness belonged, he (Mr. Dalyell) might perhaps be permitted to remind him that his proceedings here were watched with deep interest by numerous friends in Madras, both European and Native, and by not a few of his English friends, of still older date, who, though no longer in this country, still retained a lively recollection of their agreeable relations with him, both official and private, in the district of Vizagapatam and other places. Now, he felt confident that he was only expressing the opinion of all of them when he said that no incident in a long career which had been marked throughout by numerous acts of usefulness and benevolence would give them greater pleasure, than did the attitude which his honorable friend the Maharajah had assumed in regard to this bill. His anxiety to transfer the charge of the bill with which he had so entirely identified himself to the honorable and learned law member, in accordance with what he supposed (as Mr. Dalyell believed, incorrectly,) to have been a suggestion from the Government of the North-Western Provinces, was as creditable to him as had been his endeavours so to frame the measure as to make it harmonize even with the prejudices of all classes of his countrymen, and he (Mr. Dalyell) cordially congratulated him upon having carried it so successfully up to its present stage. He trusted that his honorable friend might have the satisfaction of seeing the bill become law that day, and that he might be encouraged to go further in the path of reform, and with the consent of His Excellency the President, to take up other subjects which were of equal importance, and in regard to which the law was in an equally uncertain condition."

Sir William Muir denied that the N. W. Provinces Government suggested the transfer of the Bill from the Maharaja of Vizianagram to the Law Member. He said :

"Nothing had given him (Sir William Muir) more pleasure than to perceive the Maharajah taking a personal interest in legislation, and nothing could have been further from his own personal opinions on the subject than to propose that he (the Maharajah) should not have charge of the bill. Sir Wm. Muir was further understood to say that he was sure that his hon'ble friend Mr. Dalyell was mistaken upon this point, for to the best of his (Sir Wm. Muir's) recollection, there was nothing whatever in the course of his administration in the North-Western Provinces, which would have justified any suggestion of the nature referred to by Mr. Dalyell ; on the contrary, Sir William Muir had always had to express his personal obligations to the Maharajah for the deep interest he had felt in the progress of all kinds of institutions for the welfare of the people in the North-West and in various schemes for their benefit. He cordially concurred in the wish expressed by his hon'ble friend that the Maharajah should go further in the path of reform with regard to the subject of adoption, and many others of a kindred nature, legislation on which would be attended with useful results to the people of India."

But Mr. Dalyell was correct. We remember to have read the suggestion alluded to by him ; possibly it came from Sir John Strachey. His Excellency the Viceroy thus thanked the Maharaja :

"His Excellency the President said that he wished to add one word to the observations which had been made with regard to the bill, and to join with his colleagues in the Council in thanking the Maharaja of Vizianagram for the pains which he had taken in the preparation and introduction of the bill, and for the manner in which he had met the suggestions and opinions of those who, although they agreed in the general objects of the bill, had some doubts as to some of the details."

These compliments were well deserved, and we do hope that the Maharaja will persevere in his career of reform.

THE LAW MEMBER thus remarked upon the main features of the Majority Bill :

"When the present bill was introduced into this Council its principal object was to remove some of those diversities of practice, and to establish a greater degree of uniformity, as both its title and its preamble showed, and it proposed, for all British Indian subjects alike, that the age of 18 should, for general purposes, be the age of majority. Well, in the discussion on the bill when it was introduced, our late colleague, the Hon'ble Rajah Romanauth Tagore, raised the question whether we were right in confining the age of majority to the age of 18. He contended that it was too tender an age, and, in fact, he said he would go to the length of fixing the age of majority at 21 for the whole of the Indian community, and it was agreed that the question ought to be carefully considered by the Select Committee. When the committee got to work, we found that, after the introduction of the bill, there really was only one serious subject of controversy remaining, and that was whether the age of majority should be fixed at 18, or at some higher age ; and we found ourselves advised from a great number of influential quarters to postpone the age to 21, and who referred to many cases in which injury had occurred to young men by reason of their becoming masters of their property at too early an age. Accordingly, as we came to discuss matters, it seemed to us that the object of uniformity was less important than the object of enacting a law which would be more suitable to the needs of Indian society, and we found that if we were to prolong the nonage of Wards of Court, though we should not indeed be following the recommendations of those who advocated the age of 21, yet we should substantially satisfy the reasons on which those recommendations were founded, while at the same time we should avoid a change so great as the jump from 16 or 15, or whatever the age might be, to 21. The broad result was that, setting aside property taken by way of succession and European British subjects, we had provided that those who were now minors up to 18 should remain so up to 21, and that others should attain their majority at 18. It was quite true that in doing this we did not comply with the majority of the persons who had sent us advice on the subject. The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal was an eminent instance of an authority who desired that the age of 21 should be prescribed for the whole community. The Government of Madras had urged the same view, and so did a great number of the local authorities in Madras. Such native gentlemen as the late Judge, Dwarka Nath Mitter, and the gentlemen who represented the British Indian Association, had urged strongly upon us that 18 was too tender an age at which to attain majority, and they desired to raise it either to 20 or 21. A great number of other persons had expressed the same opinions, and Mr. Hobhouse supposed that he was not unduly betraying any confidence when he said that those views found full representation in our Select Committee. In particular, Rajah Romanath Tagore, who, he was sorry to say, was prevented by illness from attending our meetings, wrote a letter to us in which he strongly urged that we should raise the general age to 21, and, although he approved of what had been done, as far as we went, he would have been better satisfied if we had taken his advice."

The Council has acted wisely in making this tentative move.

PARTS of the districts of Hooghly and Burdwan are again threatened with scarcity and distress. We have received the following letter on the subject :

DEAR SIR.—Again is our fair tract threatened with famine. Owing to a scanty fall of rain during the months of July and August last, in parts of the districts of Burdwan and Hooghly—parts which are bounded by Burdwan on the west, Mugra on the East, Culna and Cutwa on the north and the Sub-division of Jehanabad on the south—more than half of the cultivable lands were left uncultivated, and the remaining half which had been very badly cultivated by drawing water from tanks and khals returned but a very poor harvest, only 2 annas of what is produced in an ordinary year. The last winter crops equally failed, although from a different cause. At a time when seeds of pulses were about to put forth their little green shoots from under the ground, showers in abundance came in upon them at an unseasonable time of their growth and destroyed them from an excess of moisture and absence of genial heat.

Rice is the staple food of our countrymen and failure of rice-crop is always attended with very serious consequences. Famine, starvation, pestilence, death and loss of property are some of the horrors which necessarily result from such an occurrence. Such a danger is now apprehended in a large tract of country described above.

Suffering has already made its appearance amongst the lower orders—amongst cultivators and laborers. The latter could gather little or no harvest this season. Those, who had been so fortunate as to carry their sickles to their fields, soon found their little store exhausted. They are now perfectly helpless and utterly miserable. Patience of their Mahajans is now lost. They were not paid of their former advances last year and they have no chance of being paid a pice in the year current. They refuse to make fresh advances under such unfortunate circumstances. Laborers are far worse off. Their scanty wages barely sufficient to enable them to buy their food in ordinary seasons of good harvests fall very short of what is required in times of scarcity to keep their body and soul together. Prices have risen already and rice is being sold at a high rate of 20 seers to the rupee. It is steadily rising day by day. The supply by dealers of rice seems unequal to cope with the extraordinary demand now made.

The position of these unfortunate people is rendered peculiarly painful and distressing by the calamities which preceded the present distress. It was only through the paternal care and unparalleled generosity of our benevolent rulers that their lives were saved from the clutches of the most frightful famine of 1874. While the last traces of that calamity were still visible, a cyclone swept over the country and pulled down most of their frail muddy houses to the ground. Thus in the course of one year they lost all their means of livelihood and their houses in which they could shelter their heads from the inclement weather. The Burdwan fever has not as yet left its chosen seat nor has it ceased to undermine the health of these sufferers.

There may be those who may pooh-pooh my cry just as they pooh-poohed the Famine of 1874. But the tract I allude to is not distant, and they can satisfy themselves with their own eyes. At Mymaree, Pandooah and Mugra the rice market has gone up within the last few days as if by a magic wand. At Mymaree where distress is soon apprehended, more than 20 or 25 waggons of rice are unloaded every day and this large quantity of rice is sold out daily within a few hours. The place is busy with dealers of rice and some 25 or 30 shops are opened to meet this extraordinary demand at a place where during the last famine season 4 or 5 shops were found sufficient to supply what was demanded at that station. Dealers of rice from Cutwa and Culna resort to this place for purchase of rice imported from quarters where rice was produced in abundance.

It may appear strange to some of our authorities that whereas such an amount of distress exists or is soon likely to break out there is no cry for help as yet. The explanation however is to be found in the ignorance and apathetic temper of those whose sufferings have commenced. They would die without a murmur. They do not know what agitation is. The history of the last famine has at least taught us this lesson. It was the foresight of the Government that had perceived the danger before those who suffered had any idea of the same. These are significant facts which at least call for an inquiry from our watchful and kind-hearted rulers and the generous public. We do feel that our paternal Government ever watches our welfare with the utmost care and should any distress occur in any section of the vast Indian community we do not in the least doubt that our Government headed as it is now by most philanthropic statesmen would readily come forward to relieve the distress at its first outbreak.

We must not delude ourselves by supposing that the unaided operation of the principle of demand and supply will be found sufficient to meet the distress. The area and population threatened are no doubt comparatively small, and yet the distress if unchecked may carry away thousands of human lives. Those who know anything about the economy of Hindu society should know that a very few only can afford to purchase their food in times of scarcity. It is earnestly hoped therefore that the Government and the generous public should again stretch out their helping hands to relieve the distress of so many fellowcreatures.

Bhalpoor 28th February 1875. X

We hope the Government will make an enquiry into the condition of the people in the tract described by our correspondent. Cannot the balance of the Famine Relief Fund of last year be made available for the relief of the sufferers from the threatened scarcity ?

THE FOLLOWING LETTER announces a handsome subscription from a leading medical gentleman of this city in aid of Dr. Sircar's Science Association. We trust that his example will not be lost upon other Indian votaries of Science :

"MY DEAR MAHENDRA,—Please put me down a subscriber of Rs. 1000 (one thousand only) in aid of your Science Association.

Yours sincerely,
7th March, 1875. KANNY LOLL DEY.

TO DR. MAHENDRALAL SIRCAR.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

		Rs.	As.	P.
Baboo	Moolraj, Roorkee	13	4	0
,,	Takoordas Bhattacharjea, Lucknow	6	10	0
,,	Kantee Chunder Bannerjea, Rungpore	10	0	0
,,	Kashy Chunder Mookerjea, Durbungah	13	4	0
,,	Shoshesekhor Roy, Pauchparah	13	8	0
,,	Sunahy Lall, Cabul Gate	1	2	0
,,	Durponarain Mannah, Pandooah	26	8	0
,,	Troyluckhya Nauth Mookerjea, Jamalpore	2	0	0
,,	Mati Lall Ghose, Hooghly	4	0	0
,,	Woopendra Deb Narain Sing, Gopaulpore	13	4	0
,,	Ram Chunder Mookerjea, Krishnaghur	30	0	0
,,	Poorno Chunder Ghose, Durbhangah	13	4	0
,,	Baney Madhub Doss, Sasseeram	5	0	0
,,	Ram Lall Mookerjea, Allahabad	10	0	0
,,	Denonauth Bannerjea, Berhampore	6	10	0
,,	Gopeebollab Roy, Balasore	6	0	0
,,	Romanauth Dey, Agra	6	10	0
,,	Nobin Chunder Chakravarti, Agra	13	4	0
,,	Nobokissore Dutt, Shillong	5	0	0
,,	Kaylash Chunder Bannerjee, Jessore	10	0	0
,,	Suroop Chunder Hazra, Burdwan	1	4	0
,,	Sookmoy Bannerjee, Maldah	5	0	0
,,	Grinder Nauth Chukerbutty, Khoolnah	13	4	0

Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette.—*March* 3, 1875.

GENERAL.—*The 29th February* 1872.—The following appointments are made with effect from the 1st March 1875, in consequence of the retirement of Mr. E. C. Craster District and Sessions Judge of Patna, from the Civil Service :—

The Hon'ble W. F. McDonell, C.S., Commissioner of the Bhagulpore Division, now acting as a Judge of the High Court, is appointed to be District and Sessions Judge of Patna.

Mrs. Edmund Weldon Molony is appointed to be Commissioner of the Bhagulpore Division, but to act as Commissioner of the Rajshahye Division till he proceeds on furlough.

Francis Richard Cockerell is appointed to be Commissioner of the Rajshahye Division.

Edmond Elliot Lowis, who was, under orders of the 26th January 1875, appointed to act as Commissioner of the Chittagong Division, is confirmed in that appointment.

Albert Champion Mangles, Magistrate and Collector of the Second Grade Patna, is appointed to be a Magistrate and Collector of the First Grade.

Charles Cecil Stevens, B.A., Magistrate and Collector of the Third Grade, Nuddea, is appointed to be a Magistrate and Collector of the Second Grade.

William Rea Larminie, M.A., Acting Magistrate and Collector of the Third Grade, He will continue to act in the Second Grade of Magistrate and Collectors.

Trevor John Chicheley Grant, Magistrate and Collector of the Second Grade, is appointed to act in the First Grade of Magistrate and Collectors until further orders.

Lucas Blacker Burnet King, Acting Magistrate and Collector Bankoora, is appointed to be Magistrate and Collector of the Third Grade, Maldah, to act in the Second Grade of Magistrates and Collectors until further orders.

Frederick Wyer, B.A., Acting Magistrate and Collector of the Third Grade, Fureedpore, is appointed to act in the Second Grade of Magistrates and Collectors until further orders.

Roger Henry Pawsey, Acting Magistrate and Collector of the Third Grade, Mymensingh, is appointed to act in the Second Grade of Magistrates and Collectors until further orders.

Reginald Porch, Acting Magistrate and Collector of the Third Grade, Noakhally, is appointed to act in the Second Grade of Magistrates and Collectors until further orders.

Mr. Robert Fulton Rampini, M.A., who was, under orders of the 5th January 1875, appointed to act temporarily as Magistrate and Collector of Fureedpore, is appointed to act as a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the First Grade in the district of Dacca.

Colonel Hungerford Meyer Boddam, Deputy Commissioner, Hazareebagh, is allowed subsidiary leave from the 8th to the 15th February 1875, to enable him to rejoin his appointment on return from furlough.

The 27th February 1875.—Baboo Ram Sunker Sen, Duputy Magistrate and Duputy Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is allowed leave for six weeks, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 3rd February 1875.

Syud Mahamed Subhan Hydar, Sub Deputy Collector, Palamow, is allowed leave for one month. under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st April 1875.

Moulvi Syed Shere Ali, Sub-Duputy Collector, Sonthal Pergunnahs, was on privilege leave for one month and twelve days from 13th July 1875.

Baboo Isser Chander Mitter, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Busseerhat Division of the 24-Pergunnahs District, is allowed leave for one month, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved by Baboo Setakanto Mookerjea.

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North—by Meerbohur Ghat, Cotton Street, and Machoca BazarStreet.
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East—by College Street.
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South—by Manicktollah Street.
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It is further notified that the Justices will, on the 22nd March 1875 at noon, hear any appeals against the said valuations measurements and assessments, and any person, desirous of appealing against the said valuations, measurements and assessments, must do so by a written application, which must be left at the Office of the Justices three clear days before the date fixed for hearing of said appeals. No appeals will be heard unless the amount of the rate has been deposited with the Justices, and unless such appeals be preferred by the person who, at the time the appeal is made, shall be recorded in the Assessment Register as the owner or occupier of the premises; to which such appeal refers.

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After the close of the above Meeting, an Extraordinary General Meeting will be held about 12-30 P.M., for considering the following proposal altering the Articles of Association of the Company viz—

"That the Articles of Association of this Company be amended by substituting the numbers 6 and 3 for the number 5 in clause 44, and by substituting Rs. 1200 for Rs. 850 in the 4th paragraph of clause 98"

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CALCUTTA, *5th March* 1875. (72)

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